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Anti-Israel attacks not terrorism: Maksoud

US becoming a mouthpiece for Israel

ABU DHABI, March 4, (Agencies): An Arab League official today accused the United States of becoming a "mouthpiece" for Israeli demands rather than using its fledgling dialogue with the PLO to develop its own policy in the Middle East.

Clovis Maksoud, the Arab League's representative to the United Nations and the US also justified recent Palestinian incursions in southern Lebanon as "legitimate acts against direct or vicious Israeli occupation."

"We are deeply concerned about the pattern which the American administration is developing concerning its interpretations of the PLO-American dialogue," Maksoud told reporters in the UAE capital of Abu Dhabi.

Request

State Department spokesman Charles Redman yesterday said an increasing number of Palestinian attacks in southern Lebanon raised questions about the PLO's ability to carry out its commitments of renouncing terrorism and accepting Israel's right to exist.

Redman said US and Israeli officials met recently to hear an Israeli request that Washington reconsider the two-month-old

INSIDE

International	2,3
Kuwait-Gulf	4
Events	5
Editorials	6
Features	7-9
Business	10,11
Classifieds	12
Urdu	13,14
Sports	15,16

ان کارروں سے خاتمہ
مرکز سے عاز آرائی پا جائے
کے تین میں راؤ
ام کام اور بیانی کا
سماں پاٹھ کی کوشش
چونے سے طلبانی آیات کے
دل آزاد ہوئے کام عزیز اڑا
کے انتہا پنڈ آج برا کر
دیجیں گے
دیوان میں حکومت
کی کھلپی اپاٹ
چار کریائیں ہوں کا قدم
خود کی
خنزی لیندے پاکستان کو
بڑا

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with moderate north-westerly wind freshening at times.
Start of next moderate to rough
High: 24°C 34°F
Low: 12°C 55°F
Sunrise: 6:09 am
Sunset: 5:50 pm
Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 24°C 75°F
Ahmed: 20°C 68°F
Fallata: 21°C 70°F
Minimum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 13°C 55°F
Ahmed: 12°C 52°F
Fallata: 14°C 57°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 23°C 73°F
Ahmed: 20°C 68°F
Fallata: 20°C 68°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 56 per cent
Ahmed: 84 per cent
Fallata: 89 per cent

dialogue following at least four attempted raids by two Syria-based radical PLO factions — the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) of George Habash and Nayef Hawatmeh's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

In the latest incident on Thursday, Israeli troops killed four DFLP guerrillas in a clash only three miles north of the Israeli border with Lebanon.

PLO leader Yasser Arafat has defended such operations as legitimate acts of self-defence and said he would only order a truce if it was reciprocated by Israel.

Presence

Arafat said his pledge to renounce terrorism did not include guerrilla operations against the Israeli military presence in southern Lebanon.

Maksoud said Redman's statement indicated the dialogue has become "more of an instrument of relaying Israeli messages and demands rather than developing American policies."

The Arab League official, who is currently visiting the UAE on his way to Australia, said while Washington's policies in the Middle East remained hostage to Israeli "demands and tantrums," the Soviet Union has unveiled what he described as "a more dynamic, comprehensive, coherent and clear" initiative to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Maksoud was referring to the peace plan made last month by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze during his tour of five Middle East states. Shevardnadze has called for a period of six to nine months to start serious preparations for an international peace conference on the Middle East to be attended by all parties to the conflict, including the PLO.

Initiative

Maksoud said the Arab states, while welcoming the Soviet initiative, did not see it in either a confrontation or competition with US.

"The Soviet initiative carries within it the seeds of assisting the US in developing its own clear and coherent Middle East policy in the spirit of superpower

detente ... and how this detente enables the United Nations to become the framework and the mechanism of resolving regional problems, including the Arab-Israeli conflict," he said.

According to Maksoud, the Arabs' main problem with the US was that Washington continued to give the impression that the Middle East issue must be considered "outside the realm of probable solutions."

Equated

"The US cannot shield Israeli intransigence any longer and it has to use its leverage on Israel to comply with the elements of international legitimacy," he added.

The PLO today expressed astonishment at the warning issued by the State Department that equated Palestinian guerrilla attacks inside south Lebanon with terrorism.

The PLO is amazed that the State Department issued such a statement while at the same time "remaining silent during air, sea and land attacks launched daily by Israel against south Lebanon," said a PLO spokesman quoted by the Palestinian news agency WAFA.

"The PLO, which has launched an initiative to bring about a just peace in the region, is not striving for a temporary truce but that there should be a lasting, comprehensive and just peace at the same time," he added.

Supporting the PLO's views, Maksoud said: "Any aspects of the uprising or resistance in southern Lebanon to be put under the rubric of terrorism is categorically rejected and totally unacceptable."

Message

PLO executive committee member Jamal Sourani said that the PLO had received a message from an Israeli minister, proposing a secret meeting with PLO leaders.

Sourani, in an interview with a Kuwaiti daily said the PLO however had rejected the proposal and said if such a meeting is to take place it must be made public.

The PLO rejects any sort of agreement with Israel over a truce in southern Lebanon, he stressed.

Iran urges UK to ban Rushdie's book

Muslims offended, admits Thatcher

NICOSIA, March 4, (Agencies): Iran urged Britain today to go beyond calling The Satanic Verses offensive and ban the book to defuse their crisis in relations.

A Tehran Radio commentary said an explicit stance by Britain that the book was offensive "can be effective in removing the present crisis provided (this is) followed up by practical measures, despite coming after a long delay."

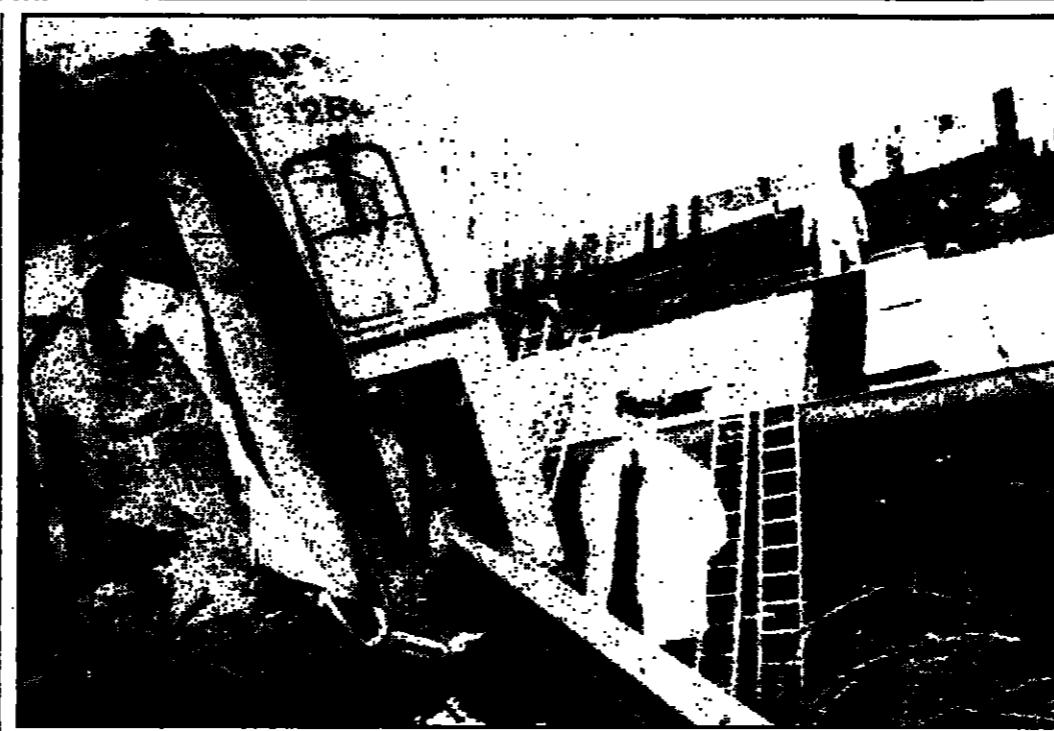
Nearly 40 people were injured in street battles in various parts of the northern Indian province of Kashmir today when Muslims enraged by the book fought pitched battles with police.

Without mentioning author Salman Rushdie or The Satanic Verses by name, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said yesterday Islam had been deeply offended but should be able to shrug off the insult.

Response

"We've known in our religion people doing things which are deeply offensive to some of us ... and that is what has happened in Islam," she said in response to reporters' questions about the Rushdie controversy.

"I think that these great



A police officer stands guard beside one passenger car that plunged down an embankment after two trains collided in South London. (Reuters wirephoto)

9 killed in British train crash

LONDON, March 4, (Reuters): Nine people were killed and at least 50 injured when two passenger trains collided today in the second major train crash in South London in three months, a spokesman said.

He said six people died at the scene and three in hospital after two trains crashed into each other near the suburban station of Purley.

Several carriages crashed down an embankment into gardens and one was ripped apart by the impact.

Hurt

Rescue workers said everyone had been cut free from the wreckage. But some of the injured were seriously hurt and the number of dead could rise.

The trains were both heading for London's Victoria station when one apparently hit the back of the other and swung across the track.

Several carriages smashed down a steep slope into gardens and rolled over, leaving others perched precariously on the edge of the embankment. Firemen rushed to the scene to cut passengers free and hospital workers aided the injured.

Witness Meesha Footer said six trees were cut in half by the force of carriages careering off the rails.

"I could hear people shouting and groaning ... there was a lot of blood and I saw one body covered with a blanket. There was one man with his leg hanging off," she said.

Junior Transport Minister Michael Portillo inspected the wreckage of the accident, which occurred just three months after the Clapham train crash killed 35.

"It's a terrible scene. There is a lot of destruction," he said.

"(The train) was sideswiped by the faster train coming behind ... one accident is terrible enough and to have two within three months is obviously very distressing," Portillo said.

Portillo said the accident was caused by a "series of events" and that the driver had been following the wrong route.

"We will have to look into the signalling and interview both drivers," he said.

A Mayday Hospital spokeswoman said 22 people were still being treated, up to 10 of them in critical condition.

A spokesman for the British Rail, the state-owned railway network, said it was not immediately clear what caused today's crash.

"We will have to look into the signalling and interview both drivers," he said.

A building worker who saw the collision told reporters: "I heard a thud, looked up and saw smoke ... lots of people were moaning."

Local residents ran out of their houses to help emergency services in the race to rescue trapped passengers in the wreckage of the blue-and-white carriages.

"We used ladders as stretchers to carry the people out," Fred Williams said.

Explosion

BEIJING, March 4, (AP): Ten people were killed and 35 injured when an explosion destroyed a passenger bus in the central city of Zhengzhou, an official daily said today.

The Legal News said the explosion occurred on the bus shortly after it left a Zhengzhou station on Thursday.

The workers claimed to have garlanded the sub-contractors with shoes after they allegedly tried to bribe some of the workers to end the strike.

Quraishi and Merwah said:

"This is baseless."

They said on Feb 28 they went to the Indian embassy to attend a meeting on the labour dispute.

'Israeli occupation must end'

Political solution needed: Waldegrave

GAZA CITY, March 4, (Agencies): Britain will contribute £500,000 (\$871,000) to help Palestinian refugees, but what is needed is a political solution, British Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave said today after touring a refugee camp in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip.

Waldegrave also criticised the Israeli Army's handling of the 14-month-old Palestinian nationalist uprising.

"It is imperative that all of us should do this to show the people that they are not forgotten," Waldegrave said of the British contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for the benefit of Palestinian refugees.

But he added: "It is no good to buy them off, they need a political solution."

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Wages

Insisting that they don't owe four months wages, Quraishi and Javed alleged some of the 900 labourers are "working on other projects in Al Qurain and earning while receiving charity."

They said they are willing to pay two-and-a-half months back pay.

Bribe

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Soviets to reduce oil exports by 5 per cent this year

MOSCOW, March 4, (Agencies): The Soviet Union, the world's largest producer of oil, will cut oil exports by five per cent in the first half of 1989, Tass news agency said yesterday.

The announcement followed speculation in OPEC circles that Moscow would take measures to support the organisation.

A one-paragraph report quoting Vladimir Arutyunyan, chairman of the All-Union Foreign Trade Association, Sovzaknflexport said: "Soviet oil exports for freely convertible currency will be reduced approximately by five per cent in the first six months

INTERNATIONAL

Bush refuses to intervene

Eastern Airlines employees on strike

MIAMI, March 4. (AP): Eastern Airlines employees walked off their jobs just after midnight yesterday in a strike that threatened to cause nationwide transportation chaos and could put one of the nation's largest airlines out of business.

The strike was called by the machinists union that represents Eastern's 8,500 mechanics and ground employees. The airline's 3,400 pilots voted overwhelmingly to honour the strike.

Meanwhile, machinists members in other transportation fields planned sympathy strikes that could shut down Amtrak — the national passenger railroad — and commuter railroads that carry hundreds of thousands into some of the country's largest cities.

"It's the most overwhelming support I have seen in the history of the labour movement," said machinists union local president Charles Bryan after federally mediated talks collapsed in Washington and unionists threw up pickets.

"It's no longer a fight between machinists and Eastern. It's a fight between labour and corporate America," said machinists general chairman Wally Haber.

The strike capped an emotional 17-month feud over wage concessions between the union and Eastern that pitted Bryan — a charismatic leader given to quoting oriental philosophers — against Eastern boss Frank Lorenzo, a steely entrepreneur whose union-busting tactics have made him highly unpopular among organised labour.

Graveyard

Lorenzo warned that the strike could put Eastern "in the corporate graveyard" and asked President George Bush not to form a special investigative panel, a move that would have delayed the wage cuts for 60 days.

Bush yesterday decided against the intervention, which had been recommended by mediators. Labour analysts saw the decision as a major indicator of how the new President would approach labour issues.

The walkout instantly disrupted Eastern flights at Miami and carloads of pickets clogged into other airports at the midnight (0500 GMT) strike start.

In Miami, about 3,000 workers charged across the street from the local union hall to corporate headquarters, chanting and carrying placards. Some hurled rocks, bottles and concrete blocks over the barbed wire-topped fence.

Iran-Contra scandal

McFarlane draws suspended sentence

WASHINGTON, March 4. (Reuter): The final chapter in the Iran-Contra torment of Robert McFarlane, who tried to kill himself in remorse for his role in the scandal, has been written with a fine, a suspended jail sentence and a period of community service.

President Reagan's one-time National Security Adviser, who once flew to Iran with weapons and gifts of a cake and a Bible in hopes of freeing American hostages in Lebanon, had pleaded guilty months ago to four counts of misleading Congress in an effort to cover up aspects of Reagan White House Iran-Contra operations.

On Friday he drew a suspended sentence and \$20,000 in fines — a step that helped clear the way for his eventual appearance as a prosecution witness in the current trial of his onetime White

House deputy, Oliver North.

McFarlane was ordered to serve two years probation and 200 hours of community service.

He could have received a maximum sentence of four years and up to \$400,000 in fines.

He had asked to receive his punishment before testifying in the trial of North, who faces much more serious charges stemming from secret efforts to sell arms to Iran and divert profits to Nicaragua's Contra rebels in 1985-86.

Issue

Facing US district judge Aubrey Robinson, McFarlane said: "This episode in our history has resulted in enormous turmoil... and to the extent I contributed to that, I regret it. I tried to serve my country."

It was not yet known when the prosecution would call



McFarlane

20 killed in Bangladesh ferry disaster

DHAKA, March 4. (AP): A ferry carrying 200 people capsized today in the Kanchi River, drowning 20 people and leaving 100 unaccounted for, according to news reports.

Police recovered 20 bodies and were trying to determine how many of the missing swam to the shore of the fast-moving river located 136 kilometres (85 miles) south of Dhaka in southern Bangladesh. United News of Bangladesh said.

The ferry, which was licensed to carry only 85 people, capsized because it was carrying too many passengers and loaded with more than 25,000 pounds of rice in sacks piled on the ferry's deck, the news agency said.

Policemen, firefighters and local volunteers were involved in rescue operations at the site which were hampered by the swift river currents, the news agency said.

Parliament said earlier this month that at least 900 people have died in the last seven years when ferries they were travelling in capsized.

Plane crash

ROANOKE, Virginia, March 4. (AP): A small plane crashed into a front yard in a suburban neighbourhood yesterday, killing at least one person aboard the plane and setting a house on fire, officials said.

"It looks like it hit in front of the house and cartwheeled," said Roanoke county fire chief Jonathan Fuqua. "We've got parts thrown from one end of the block to the other end."

Three people in the house escaped, said Fuqua, but no one aboard the plane was thought to have survived.

"In this way, the World Health Organisation seeks to accelerate the ultimate result, which is the



Bush (right) speaks to reporters before attending a defence briefing with Tower (left) at the Pentagon. (Reuters photo)

Republicans urge opportunity for Tower to face critics

WASHINGTON, March 4. (Reuter): Republican leader Robert Dole has suggested that embattled defence secretary-designate John Tower be given his day in court by facing his Senate critics in a closed plenary session.

As controversy swirled around President Bush's nominee on the second full day of Senate debate, Dole said yesterday legislators should observe "the spirit of decency and fair play... to give John Tower his day in court — right here in the United States Senate."

The Republican leader said he might formally request approval for Tower's appearance next week.

Democratic leader George Mitchell did not respond directly to Dole but said he hoped for a vote on the nomination next

week. The Senate armed services committee voted against recommending Tower for the top Pentagon post.

Rumour

But Mitchell said if Republicans really believed Federal Bureau of Investigation background reports on Tower were full of rumour and innuendo, "there ought not to be any misunderstanding... as to who controls access to them."

Mitchell suggested Bush could make the reports public.

Senators have expressed frustration that they cannot discuss the reports openly though some portions have been leaked and published allegedly containing charges against Tower by unreliable witnesses.

WHO plans for AIDS vaccine tests

GENEVA, March 4. (Reuter): The World Health Organisation (WHO) is to start planning for large-scale trials of potential anti-AIDS vaccine so as not to waste time when one becomes available, the group's top AIDS specialist said yesterday.

Four possible vaccines are already being tried privately on a small number of people in the United States, Switzerland and Zaire, WHO AIDS programme chief Jonathan Mann said.

Forty treatment drugs are now being tried, none of them so far as effective as AZT — a drug developed in the United States which has raised the survival rate of sufferers despite certain side-effects, Mann said.

He told a news conference that it was important now to settle some tough issues regarding international tests so that acceptable wide-scale testing can begin as soon as an experimental vaccine has passed initial trials.

"In this way, the World Health Organisation seeks to accelerate the ultimate result, which is the

availability of a safe and effective vaccine," Mann said.

In any case, it will be at least five to 10 years before an effective vaccine is ready for the public, he said.

Ironically, science has not yet come up with a way of distinguishing between the two, Mann said. A vaccinated person will develop antibodies against the virus just as a person who is infected — and tests now look for antibodies.

With sicknesses like measles that does not matter. But it does with AIDS because of the discrimination a vaccinated candidate might face — for example, from insurance companies which require testing for the virus.

A vaccinated person would also not be able to find out in later tests if he subsequently became infected by the AIDS virus.

When someone vaccinated against AIDS and someone actually infected with the AIDS virus.

The search for vaccines — for prevention — is separate from the rush to find a cure for the fatal disease.

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He was speaking after 39 scientific, legal and ethical experts who met in Geneva this week reached consensus on broad guidelines for vaccine testing.

They also debated problems such as how to distinguish bet-

Lebanese concerned at reports of Israeli expansion

BEIRUT, March 4. (AP): The Muslim and Christian cabinets in Lebanon's dual government today issued separate statements voicing concern over a reported plan by Israel to expand its self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon.

Acting Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss, who heads the Muslim cabinet, told Lebanon's envoy to the United Nations, Rashid Fakhouri to "draw the world's attention to Israel's intentions," an official statement said.

The rival Christian cabinet of Gen. Michel Aoun, in a statement published by the independent daily *An Nahar*, expressed "deep concern over the statements made by some Israeli military commanders which clearly revealed Israel's intention to widen the area of what it calls the security zone."

Move

Maj. Gen. Youssif Peled, Israel's northern front commander, was quoted on Thursday as saying he was considering expanding the security zone.

Voice of the South Radio, the mouthpiece of the Israeli-allied South Lebanon Army militia that operates in the zone, said Peled wanted to include five Druze villages in the strip.

The broadcast said the move was requested by unnamed leaders of the Minieh, Khalwat, Ain Sarta, Kir and Ain Ata villages located in the central Bekaa valley, a few miles north of the security zone.

The Muslim-run Voice of the Nation radio, based in West Beirut, broadcast statements issued in the five villages that denied making such a request or having contacts with the Israelis in the security zone.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Dead man's letter

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida, March 4. (AP): Two men have been arrested in the 1981 kidnapping and killing of an 11-year-old girl, linked to the crime by a third man who confided in a letter mailed after his death, police said.

Christopher Anderson was last seen getting into a car on Aug. 31, 1981. Her disappearance set off a widespread search in the Fort Lauderdale area, but no trace of her was found until her body was found in a field six months later.

On Dec. 16, a man named Frank Maxwell died in an automobile accident in Texas, and his brother complied with his request to mail a sealed letter to Fort Lauderdale police.

The letter confessed to Maxwell's involvement in Christine's disappearance and death, and linked two other men to the case, police said.

Evacuation

MOSCOW, March 4. (Reuter): Health authorities have urged evacuation of five more villages in the Ukraine because of persistent levels of radiation from the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster, Tass reported.

The villages were not named but Tass said yesterday that three of them were in the Narodichsky district, about 50 km (30 miles) from Chernobyl, where a Soviet newspaper last month reported the birth of deformed farm animals.

Aryan Woodstock

NAPA, California, March 4. (Reuter): A judge refused to block a white-only rock concert, but ruled that it could not have any music.

The concert, billed as an "Aryan Woodstock," was planned today and tomorrow on 70 acres (28 hectares) of private farmland near San Francisco, by former Ku Klux Klan leader Tom Metzger, leader of the white Aryan resistance group.

Napa county authorities had asked a judge to ban the meeting on grounds that it did not have a rock festival permit.

Czech spy

LONDON, March 4. (AP): A Czechoslovak spy, arrested last year while receiving a secret radio message from Prague, was convicted under the Official Secrets Act yesterday and sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Bohuslav Vanek, whose real name still is not known to police, posed as a Dutch art dealer and participated in Jewish activist groups as a cover while sending information back to his superiors, prosecutors charged.

Following a five-day trial at the Old Bailey Central Criminal Court, a jury convicted Vanek on what judge Sir Simon Brown called "the most compelling evidence of a grave offence." Brown recommended Vanek be deported after serving his term.

United Airlines pilot

SAN FRANCISCO, March 4. (AP): The pilot who landed a jetliner after its side ripped open, ejecting nine passengers, said yesterday that after the shock he said a quick prayer for his passengers and went back to work.

Capt. David Cronin was in charge of United Airlines Flight 811 on its Feb. 24 non-stop flight from Honolulu to Auckland, New Zealand, when shortly after takeoff the Boeing 747's right forward cargo door and an adjoining 10-by-10 foot (3-by-3 metre) section of fuselage tore away.

Muslims offended ...

(Continued from Page 1)

Rushdie put to death for blasphemous.

It said Britain should clarify freedom of expression was a licence for defamation and insult and should dispel "ambiguities" by prosecuting Rushdie and banning the book.

In Kuwait, an Islamic legal committee met on Thursday at the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs to discuss the issue. A fatwa (religious ruling) is expected to be issued shortly.

UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has called for an end to the controversy over the book, saying there were real problems in the world that needed to be tackled.

Perez de Cuellar told reporters in Calcutta before leaving India for Bangladesh that freedom of speech should be respected by the Islamic world as well as the West. "We should have respect for all religions," he said.

Dramatic

The matter should be buried now. All of us should try to put it behind us and focus on the real problems of the world. We should dramatise the issue and Perez de Cuellar, who was in India to accept an award.

At least 21 people have been killed in protests over Rushdie in India and Pakistan.

Attackers, categorising him as a heretic, have been killed in the streets of San Salvador, the capital of El Salvador, and Perez de Cuellar, who was publishing a newspaper and giving speeches, has been targeted.

Attacks on Rushdie have been carried out in London, Paris, Rome, and New York. In each case, he has been targeted because he is a heretic.

Discover gold

Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

INTERNATIONAL

Thousands run to mark Nehru birth centenary

NEW DELHI, March 4. (UPI): Hundreds of thousands of people today ran in events staged across the nation as part of year-long celebrations to mark the birth centenary of India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, Nehru's grandson, flagged off the run in New Delhi, where more than 100,000 people cascaded down the stately Vijay Chowk Road from the presidential palace to embark on a 26-mile-long (42-km) route through the streets of the capital.

Most of the participants appeared to be running for the first time, with many puffing and slowing down just minutes into the event, of which similar but smaller ones were being staged in 125 other cities nationwide.

"Most of them will not even cover a quarter of the distance," chuckled one police official as he watched the visibly flagging joggers plodding onwards through New Delhi's tree-lined streets in warm spring weather.

Strongest

But more athletic types — including runners from France, Belgium, Australia, Pakistan, the United Kingdom — took part in the Delhi international marathon, which Rajiv kicked off 30 minutes before he started the Jawaharlal Nehru Centenary run.

Britain's Tony Simmons, Jean Jablonski of France and Belgium's Werner Mory, who each have personal best records of less than 2 hours, 20 minutes in previous marathons — were rated as the strongest contestants.

Rajiv hugged a four-year-old girl named Payal Damodaran, who set off hoping to make it halfway some 13-miles (21-km) along the course, at the end of which visitors would receive prizes totalling \$30,000.

Suresh Kalmadi, organising committee chairman and a member of Congress (I) Party in Parliament, said the aim of the sports events was to create harmony among the more than 800 million people living in the vast heterogeneous nation.

Death toll in Indian fire climbs to 40

PATNA, March 4. (Reuter): The death toll from a fire at an anniversary party for India's biggest company rose to 40 today, following the deaths of 12 people from burns.

Hospital officials in the north-eastern Indian town of Jamshedpur said the death toll could increase further because about 75 of the 130 people hospitalised after Friday's accident were in critical condition.

The victims, many of them executives and family members of the Tata Iron and Steel Co., were watching a ceremony marking the 150th birthday of company founder Jamshedji Tata at the sprawling company complex.

Witnesses said a canopy caught fire, and the flames, fanned by strong winds, quickly engulfed it and sent it crashing down on the guests.

Some of the victims got trapped as people fled the inferno. Security guards had to break open the iron gates of the company complex to allow guests to flee, police said.

Police are investigating the cause of the fire.

Burma rulers will not run for polls

BANGKOK, March 4. (Reuter): Burma's military rulers dismissed as "absolutely groundless" speculation that they may run in elections promised for next year.

Rangoon Radio, monitored here today, quoted a government spokesman as saying no public servant could engage in politics.

"They do not have the right and cannot do so. The same is true for members of the defence forces," he said.

Opposition parties have accused the armed forces of siding with the National Unity Party formed by former government members after last September's military coup, the spokesman told a news conference.

Attacked

"We categorically reject these accusations," he said.

Aung San Suu Kyi, leader of the opposition National League for Democracy, said a draft election law published on Thursday was unclear and only barred people serving prison terms from voting or standing in the election.

"What are they really doing to ensure our freedom and human

Hardliners may stay out

Sudan's cabinet taking shape

KHARTOUM, March 4. (Reuters): The new government taking shape in Sudan is expected to mark a strong shift towards peace talks with Southern rebels, official and diplomatic sources said today.

The new coalition, being forced under pressure from Sudan's armed forces, is likely to exclude the main party of Muslim hardliners and bring in a group which tried to broker a settlement with the non-Muslim rebels last year, the sources said.

Whether Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi will lead the new coalition is unclear.

Crisis

He is widely expected to announce his resignation tomorrow. But he has no obvious successor and press reports say his Umma Party, the largest in parliament, may dominate him to succeed himself when the assembly meets on Monday.

Sudan has been locked in a political crisis since February 20 when the officer corps delivered an ultimatum to Mahdi calling

for formation of a broad-based government which would either make peace or provide resources to win the civil war in the South.

Whether the Army would accept Mahdi as the leader of a new coalition was also unclear. Press reports say the officers hold him largely responsible for their setbacks on the battlefield.

The official news agency Suna reported today that the Supreme Council, a five-man collective presidency, had hammered out an agreement to underpin a new government.

Party and trade union leaders were expected to sign it later in the day.

The main parties in Sudan's present coalition are Mahdi's Umma and the National Islamic Front (NIF).

Deal

Under a deal that official and diplomatic sources said was taking shape this weekend, the Islamic Front would be replaced in the new line-up by the Democratic Unionist Party, which quit Mahdi's government

in December after an unsuccessful peace bid.

Sudan's Muslim Arab majority lives in the North but the country stretches more than 1,500 km (1,000 miles) south from Khartoum into the heart of Equatorial Africa where the population is mainly Christian or animist.

The NIF advocates a military solution of the war and espouses nation-wide sharia or Islamic law, which is anathema to the rebels.

Sources said the NIF was expected to boycott the proposed new coalition on the grounds that it could not work in harmony.

Negotiations

"Let me put it this way," said one diplomatic source. "None of the generals will be sorry to see NIF fighting it out in opposition."

By contrast, the sources said, the new government would almost certainly include the second largest party in parliament, the DUP, which

served in Mahdi's coalition from May 1986 until last December.

The DUP held negotiations with the SPLA in Ethiopia last year, acting with Mahdi's approval but without a commitment from the coalition to accept the outcome.

The result was a draft agreement in mid-November which would have put the key issue of sharia on hold pending a national constitutional conference.

The Umma Party welcomed the accord but the NIF called it a surrender. Muslim militants rioted in Khartoum, parliament voted the agreement down and DUP leader Mohammed Osman Al Mirghani pulled his party out of Mahdi's coalition.

The failed peace bid was followed by humiliating defeats in the South for Sudan's 60,000-strong Army, which is poorly equipped for its war with the SPLA's estimated 40,000 rebels.

The SPLA claims to have captured two garrison towns in the past week alone.



A young woman cries as her relative tries to comfort her after a massive blast at a suburban Istanbul paint factory. (Reuter wirephoto)

Top businessmen accused of bribery

Four Japanese indicted

TOKYO, March 4. (AP): Prosecutors today indicted four businessmen for bribery in a stock scandal that has toppled several high-ranking government officials and tarnished the reputation of Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

Those indicted today included Hiromasa Ezoe, the 52-year-old founder and former chairman of the Recruit Co. conglomerate, the prosecutors' office said. Ezoe, arrested on Feb. 13, is accused of giving bribes.

The company reportedly sold about 687,000 unlisted stocks of its real estate subsidiary, Recruit Cos., at bargain prices to politicians, their aides and other prominent figures in September 1986. Purchasers made huge profits when the stocks went public and skyrocketed in value.

Also indicted were Ei Shikha, 55, and Hisahiko Hasegawa, 56, two former officials of the giant private company, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone,

prosecutors said. The two men are accused of receiving Recruit bribes.

Hiroshi Kobayashi, the 43-year-old vice-president of First Finance, was also indicted for offering bribes, prosecutors said. First Finance is a Recruit subsidiary that financed the stock sales.

Today's indictments were the first since November, when prosecutors indicted former Recruit official Hiroshi Matsubara for trying to bribe an opposition lawmaker into soft-peddling a parliamentary investigation into the scandal.

Since the stock scandal became public last summer, more than 10 politicians and business leaders have resigned. Among them were three members of Takeshita's cabinet, including former Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Takeshita faces opposition calls in parliament to resign or account for his links to the scandal.

dai. The parties have urged Takeshita to submit purchase contracts and other documents for Recruit shares allegedly held by his former secretary, Ihei Aoki, and Katsuyuki Fukuda, a Takeshita relative.

NTT officials were among those who received unlisted Recruit stocks. The telecommunications company reportedly extended special favours to Recruit, including resale to Recruit of two US-made Cray computers and the leasing of telephone lines at reduced rates.

News reports today said NTT also has made special arrangements for Recruit to use an emergency fast-speed digital circuit free of charge.

Kyodo news service said the prosecutors will question Ezoe further about former NTT chairman Hisashi Shinto's role in the scandal. News reports have said Shinto met Ezoe twice in 1985 to discuss the resale of the Cray computers.

The cushion is normally powered by the vehicle's battery, and is supposed to keep the driver alert by regulating his vital energy and stimulate blood circulation.

The Chinese authorities hope it is the answer to the problem of drivers who fall asleep at the wheel.

One person is killed every 10 minutes on China's roads, according to the Chinese authorities.

About half the accidents are caused by tired and sleepy drivers, they said.

Cabinet ministers, politicians, schoolchildren, businessmen and housewives have flooded the Yang sisters with toys, dolls and more than 15,000 dollars in cash donations.

A social organisation has vowed to pay the girls' school expenses through college, and Kim Ok-Sook, the wife of President Roh Tae-Woo, sent a letter asking the girls "not to lose hope."

Newspaper editorials blamed public policies which, they said, do too little to aid the poor. The editors also blamed South Korea's male-dominated social structure which allows only limited opportunities for women.

The girls' mother told doctors that the oldest daughter, Soon-Mi, had confided to a friend recently: "If we're not around, perhaps mother and father can live better" with their brother.

Girls' suicide bid becomes political issue in S. Korea

SEOUL, March 4. (AP): The four sisters who took rat poison because they wanted their parents to lavish everything on their baby brother have shocked South Koreans into questioning the nation's entrenched male chauvinism and the plight of the poor.

The youngest of the four girls, who were six to 13, died immediately. The girls had wanted their impoverished parents to provide their 3-year-old brother with the best education the family could afford.

Doctors said the three older sisters would recover from their poisoning attempt. The girls, who were found unconscious on Feb. 27, remained in shock and only relatives were allowed to visit them in the hospital.

The eldest girl does not recognise anyone and keeps repeating, "I'm sorry, I'm sorry," the mother, Kim Ok-Sun, told reporters.

The youngest girl was scheduled to enter the first grade on March 1. Her father, Yang

Cushion massage for drivers

SINGAPORE, March 4. (KUNA): China is producing electronic seat cushions to massage the bottoms of vehicle drivers as a means of preventing road accidents, according to a BBC news programme monitored here.

The broadcast also relayed remarks made by Chinese drivers testing the cushions. "It's fine, not too bad," said one driver.

"Very peculiar, it feels like a burst water main," another man said.

Moulded to cover the entire seat studded with about 90 small, hard knobs, the cushion is said to work on the principles of acupuncture.

Sleep

A switch attached to the cushion activates three rather noisy sets of vibrators concealed inside it.

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dead and proved a catalyst for the subsequent drive to create in Punjab the nation of "Khalistan."

Some 5,000 people have been slain in violence related to the campaign. The latest victims claimed today in the central village of Baba Nathu, where police reported gunmen opened fire on a rest house, killing two people, including one woman.

The release of the detainees was part of an initiative announced by Rajiv yesterday that observers hold is largely aimed at enhancing his re-election chances in nationwide polls to be called before December by providing he has made inroads against the radicals.

Rajiv also said his central government was reducing the emergency powers under which it has ruled Punjab since May 1987, when he sacked the elected moderate Sikh administration.

Moderate Sikhs and human rights groups claim the detainees are mostly innocent pilgrims inadvertently caught up in the action in Sikhs' holiest shrine that left some 600 people

dead and proved a catalyst for the subsequent drive to create in Punjab the nation of "Khalistan."

The test, which involved the mid-infrared advanced chemical laser ("Mirac") was sponsored by the Pentagon's "Star Wars" anti-missile defence programme.

The Navy stressed that it was a tactical weapon and not aimed at defending against long-range missiles.

The announcement said the high-energy laser "destroyed a

supersonic missile in a test designed to show that a laser beam could acquire, track and deposit enough energy on a supersonic target to destroy it."

The Pentagon would not reveal the range at which the missile was shot down, but said the range of the modified version of the Navy's older ship-based Talos missile "was representative of real tactical scenarios."

Under the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), commonly called "Star Wars," the United States is attempting to develop land and space-based weapons which might shoot down attacking nuclear missiles in flight. These include rockets and lasers.

"Tests against supersonic targets were successfully completed in the fall (autumn) of 1987," the Pentagon said.

"This test demonstrates that the technology has matured to the point that high energy lasers can be a real option for tactical warfare missions."

Ceilings

In response, the United States imposed equal staffing ceilings of 225 for each country's embassy, and a limit of 26 for each consulate. This forced Moscow to reduce 80 Soviet diplomatic positions in the United States.

Moscow responded by withdrawing about 200 Soviet citizens employed in the US Embassy and consulate in Moscow, forcing the United States to send in about 90 Americans to perform chores such as cleaning and maintenance.

Daniloff was released in late September 1986 and returned to America.

"Agreement on a simultaneous and reciprocal raising of the staffing ceilings was reached last month in an exchange of diplomatic notes between the US Embassy and the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Moscow," Redman said.

Embassy staffs of each superpower had been reduced as a result of the August 1986 Daniloff affair, in which American

11 killed in Turkish paint factory fire

Education conference in Kuwait

MINISTER of Higher Education and Acting Minister of Education, Dr Ali Al Shamani issued a decision for holding the second educational conference on public education entitled "Education a Joint Responsibility."

The conference, which begins April 1 and lasts four days, is aimed at focussing on the educational process, students' problems and means for solving them.

The role of public and private institutions in the educational process will also be discussed.

The preparatory committee is chaired by Undersecretary Abdul Rahman Al Khudari who is assisted by Assistant Undersecretary Abdul Mohsen Al Sa'ed, Director of Educational Research Centre Dr Issa Jassim and Director of Social Service Department Faqqa Khalil Ibrahim.

Oil conference opens today

A CONFERENCE on the use of catalysts in the refining of oil will be held under the patronage of HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah from today until March 9, 1989 at the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research.

The head of the Higher Conference Organising Committee, Dr Saad Akash said that the hydrogen treatment of heavy oil residue plays an essential role in modern oil refinery techniques.

He further added that the conference aims at the exchange of knowledge on up to date techniques applied in the process, and ways to improve the effectiveness of catalysts.

The conference administration has already received many research papers and studies in this field, of which 29 papers were approved for introduction at the conference. He pointed that the conference will include lectures delivered by six scientists representing five countries.

Prizes awarded to divers

By Mahmoud Mursi

THE Kuwait Sport Sea Club organised a festival last week to grant prizes awarded by HH the Amir to divers and members of committees that participated in the 3rd diving season held last summer.

A total of 144 youths and old divers competed in the activities which were aimed at memorialising diving activities in Kuwait before the oil era. The festival was held under the patronage of the Assistant Undersecretary of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour for Youth Affairs, Abdul Rahman Al Mazroui. The participants in the diving season were received by HH the Amir last week.

The club also organised a sporting and marine festival on Friday evening under the patronage of Ahmad Governor Sheikh Ali Sabah Al Salem. The festival included several sporting and marine competitions and a race for sailboats.

Sea cargo statistics

THE Director of Handling Department at Shuaikha Port Fadiel Al Shatti was quoted in a local daily as saying that the port received about 779 ships last year unloading a cargo of 3,195,356 tons, outbound cargo amounted to 51,251 tons for the same period.

The department has been provided with the latest handling equipment as well as the administrative and technical expertise to overcome unloading delays. The unloading capacity of the port has been enhanced to 1,000 tons per day, per berth, Shatti said.

He added that the Public Ports Authority is organised to meet the expected increase in the transit movement after the Iraq-Iran ceasefire.

Security guards mandatory for private and public establishments

A NEW Civil Defence law recently agreed upon by the Council of Ministers will make it mandatory for large companies and government establishments in the country to maintain security guards.

A symposium on this theme was organised by the General Civil Defence Department.

The symposium shed light on security and safety measures to be instituted at all establishments to protect them from any natural and other non-natural dangers.

A local daily interviewed a number of security and safety officials at companies to highlight their role in providing security and safety. They expressed willingness to train and receive Kuwaiti youth at their departments.

UN to maintain silence on Iran-Iraq talks

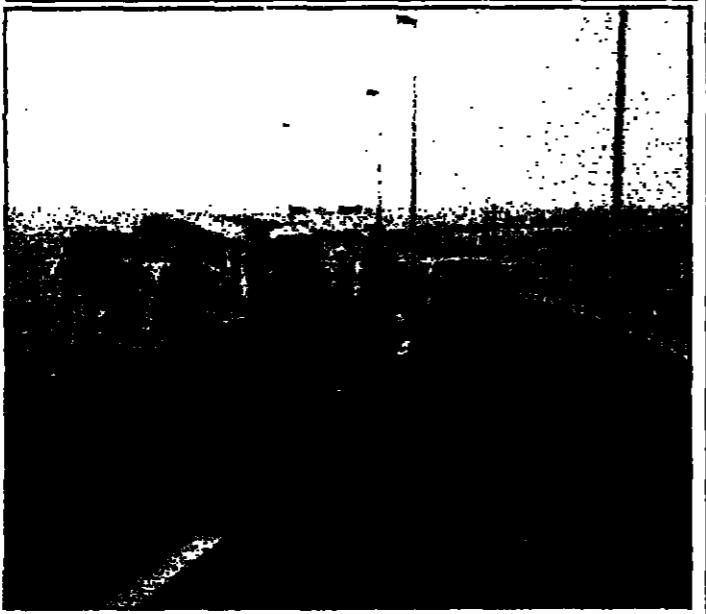
UNITED NATIONS, March 4. (Reuters) - The United Nations will maintain silence on the substance of current Gulf peace talks but both sides have been consulted, a UN spokesman has said.

Spokesman Francois Giuliani said preparatory discussions with a delegation from Iran led by Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Hossein Lavasani were completed yesterday and talks with the Iraqi side would probably begin next Wednesday.

"I am not going to tell you anything at all (on substance)," Giuliani said, adding: "not until after the Iraqi delegation has come and met."

Consultations

In the absence of Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar on an Asian tour, his special representative Jan Eliasson, the chief delegate of Sweden, has been conducting consultations with the Iranians, along with UN experts.



The eight athletes who completed the run in an effort to save wildlife.

Border to border run successfully completed

By Lima Al Khalafawi

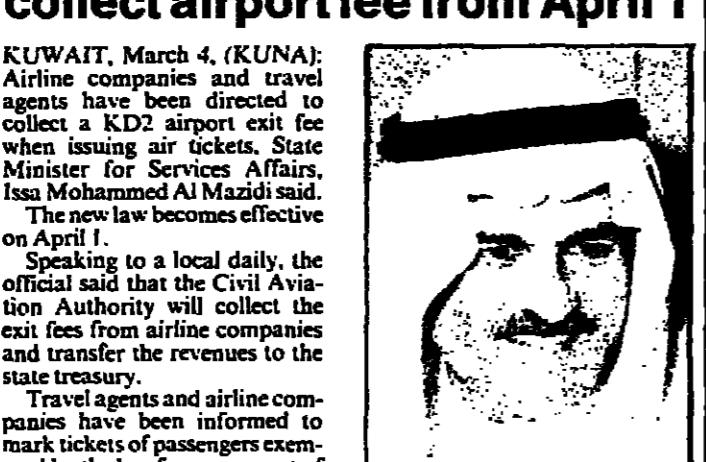
EIGHT athletes from Messilah Beach Hotel Kuwait finished their run in 15 hours and 18 minutes covering a distance of 246 kilometres across Kuwaiti borders from Abdali to Nuwaiseeb.

This run marks the first attempt to run the entire length of the country. The run which began at 12:00 midnight from Iraq's border at Abdali finished at the Saudi border at 3:18 pm on Friday, March 3.

The event was co-sponsored by Arab Times and Messilah Beach Hotel to focus on world conservation and pollution control related to wildlife and as an event to celebrate Kuwait's National Day.

Each member of the team ran a relay of three kilometres within

Airlines and travel agents will collect airport fee from April 1



Issa Al Mazidi
the Civil Aviation Department.

Prices at Kuwait airport shopping area are lower than those compared to prices in Western countries. This is due to Kuwait levying only four per cent import duty.

The opening of duty-free shops at Kuwait International Airport has been put off pending the completion of new buildings.

Airlines companies carried 133,825 passengers who were outbound and accounted for 139,968 incoming travellers on 78 flights last January, Mazidi said.

The official denied that departure and arrival halls at the airport will be provided with electric conveyor belts for carrying passengers from and to the gates.

However, authorities may purchase battery operated wheelchairs for the use of old passengers and others who cannot walk. A decision to this effect is being awaited after the next budget of

difference between industrial security and citizen security. Kuwaitis occupy 60 per cent of the total security force at the company safety department and proved to be highly motivated for the job, he stated.

Generally speaking, the oil sector in Kuwait is still suffering from shortages in Kuwaiti manpower. A section of Kuwaiti youth refuse technical jobs due to a lack of motivation and direction during their educational stages.

Abdullah Al Shwai, head of the general security and safety services at Kuwait Flour Mills

Company said that Kuwaiti youth should be motivated to join the security and safety sectors through the encouragement of the government. He proposed the establishment of centres to train those who are interested.

Sabah Al Rais, head of Security and Safety Society said the society aims at enhancing resident traffic awareness through lectures and discussions. The society will publish a regular publication during its next season in this respect and has many plans to spread traffic awareness among youngsters, the official said.

The study indicated that the educational status of parents and

particularly fathers reflected on delinquency. It said that fathers of 77.3 per cent of the delinquents were illiterates. Bad company accounted for 51.5 per cent of delinquency.

Serious

As many as 63.3 per cent of the delinquents spent their leisure time in an unguided and unprofitable way. About 85.2 per cent of the delinquents resided in unorganised (so called non-model) areas mostly isolated from the city and in many cases had small houses, the study said.

The study concluded by urging society and the government to look seriously at this problem. It also urged schools to positively contribute to reducing the number of delinquent teenagers. The study called upon parents to take preventive measures to avoid delinquency.

Former Lebanese presidents not invited to league committee meeting

Faction leaders to meet in Kuwait, March 17

KUWAIT, March 4, (KUNA): The Arab League Six-man Committee entrusted with resolving the Lebanese crisis will not invite former Lebanese presidents to participate in its third stage meeting in Kuwait on March 17, a local daily quoted political sources as saying.

The political sources, described by the daily as close to the committee, added that inviting former presidents would require special protocol arrangements that are not in harmony with the committee's nature.

Decision

The decision has been taken after consultations between the committee members, the sources said.

The committee, chaired by Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, have invited Lebanese faction leaders for the meeting.

The Soviet Union meanwhile yesterday hailed the role of the Arab League Committee on Lebanon in trying to solve the 14-year-old Lebanese crisis.

The Soviet support for the Arab drive to solve the Lebanese crisis came during a meeting held early yesterday between Arab ambassadors accredited to Moscow and the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Middle East Department head Vladimir Polyakov.

The meeting, it is understood, was an opportunity during which the two sides discussed the Soviet foreign minister's recent trip to Middle East countries, the constitutional crisis in Lebanon and Moscow's stance on it besides the Iraq-Iran conflict and means to move Gulf peace negotiations

Towards developing the agricultural sector in the country.

Invitations

On the other hand, diplomatic sources told KUNA that Kuwait's Ambassador to Syria Ahmed Abdel Aziz Al Jassem will relay the invitations to Lebanese leaders.

They said that Ambassador Jassem will arrive in Beirut

within a few days, most likely on Tuesday or Wednesday, adding that the ambassador will accompany Sheikh Sabah to Damascus tomorrow.

Sheikh Sabah will brief Syrian officials on the committee's activities and meetings with the various Lebanese parties and the outcome of these encounters.

The sources said that director of protocol at the Lebanese Foreign Ministry Assem Jaber contacted the Kuwaiti embassy in Damascus to set a date for conveying the invitations.

The committee, formed by the Arab League Jan 12, had met on its first round of talks in Tunis with parliament speaker Hussein Al Husseini, Lebanese Premier Salim Al Hoss and head of the military government Michel Aoun. Nearly one month later, the committee conferred with Lebanese Muslim and Christian spiritual leaders in Kuwait.

Corporation

The executive also announced that ASB is investing 22 per cent in International Investment Corporation (IIC), the founder shareholders of which are Arab Saudi Bank along with other companies and individuals from the Gulf, the United Kingdom and Egypt. A meeting of the founder shareholders of IIC was held on Feb 21, in Bahrain of which it was decided the authorised capital will be \$20 million, out of which \$5 million is subscribed by the founder shareholders.

Hassan and Mowafiq, the promoters and Hatim Zubri of Al Mahmood & Zubri (legal consultants) were appointed to oversee the registration of the new company.

Agricultural authority established

to benefit farmers, says official

RASHEED Al Nafisi, Chairman of Kuwaiti Farmers Union, in an interview with a local daily, was quoted as saying that the Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources had been established to benefit farmers.

If we are to rely on agriculture as an important factor towards achieving food security, we have to set up a long term agricultural strategy, Nafisi said.

He described the current relations between the union and the authority as cordial and added that they were striving together towards developing the agricultural sector in the country.

Credits

The union, who had visited Sheikh Ibrahim Duaj, chairman and director-general of the authority, had discussed the problems of shortage in agricultural equipment and the effect of frost on crops. He added that the authority had expressed a readiness towards indemnifying farmers whose crops had been affected by the frost.

Nafisi called for extending agricultural credits to farms established in the last two years

from the proceeds of the agricultural portfolio.

These farms constituted 30 per cent of the country's agricultural farms.

If we are to rely on agriculture as an important factor towards achieving food security, we have to set up a long term agricultural strategy, Nafisi said.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Ibrahim Duaj has said that the authority aimed at the cultivation of wheat at Wafra and Abdali on a pilot-plant basis. The authority, in cooperation with Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) carried out several experiments and, in the light of these, selected appropriate seeds, manure and other necessary equipment.

Wheat cultivation

To clarify the importance of wheat agriculture in realising food security several brochures were distributed to farmers.

About 260 hectares of wheat were cultivated in Wafra by 131 farmers, 245 hectares in Abdali, 245 hectares in the official said.

Indemnity

Sheikh Ibrahim also said that the authority following the harvesting season will re-evaluate technically and economically the results of the experiment.

He added that cows and cattle owners will be entitled to an indemnity equivalent to 50 per cent value for the loss of cows and cattle through epidemics.

Agricultural revenues constituted about one per cent of the country's total national income, while livestock and poultry resources represented 70 percent of agriculture output.

The incomes of Abdali farms amounted to KD1,008,869, while Wafra farms income had amounted to KD731,558 the official said.

Difficult

Another hawker says that it is a very difficult job. "We stay outside our houses all day and sometimes underneath the strong sun for small profits." He feels that he always chased by the Municipality due to the many times he has been caught.

One of the customers said that hawkers prices are much cheaper than those of the market and hoped that the Municipality will turn a blind eye to this problem.

He added that he usually sells KD2 worth of goods daily and that Municipality inspectors are not very strict with them. He

denied that municipality inspectors should be more strict towards hawkers because it is an uncivilised phenomenon.

KISR develops expertise to detect pork additives

THE director of central lab at Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR), Dr. Faisal Abdul Dukka, stressed that there are three scientific methods to detect pork additives in food-stuffs.

The first method is to test by a thermal process which can show the difference between fats of pig, sheep or cows.

The second is to use modern liquidated chromatography (HPLC) and the third, is the use of gas chromatography developed by KISR which is more effective, the official said.

The last can detect pig additives in foodstuffs even if they are in very minute quantities (less than one per cent). Pig fat contains a fatty acid that is not found in any other animal fat.

If Kuwait's Municipality suspects the existence of pork additives in products they refer samples to KISR's central lab.

Products manufactured from pig additives are considered to be the cheapest products in the West and in industrial countries, Dukka said.

Several studies proved that pork ranks lowest among other kinds of meat, in terms of adverse effects.

Dukka pointed out that the central lab of KISR undertook more than 300,000 chemical analyses during the last ten years for KISR, local establishments and authorities and even for some Arab countries.

The lab has produced more than 92 scientific papers which were published in well-known scientific magazines. It also organised 25 training courses during the last six years. More than 350 chemists, chemical and environmental engineers from Kuwait and abroad participated, Dukka said.

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The study concluded by urging society and the government to look seriously at this problem. It also urged schools to positively contribute to reducing the number of delinquent teenagers. The study called upon parents to take preventive measures to avoid delinquency.

OBITUARY

Month's Mind

There will be a requiem high mass for the soul of

Malpractice monitoring

DR ABDUL Aziz Khalaf, the director of Quality Department at Kuwait's Ministry of Public Health (MPH) said that the Mortalities Control Committee at the government hospitals follows up all death cases at these hospitals to monitor health care.

Medical negligence or mal-practices will be the subject of a ministerial enquiry, Khalaf said.

Friends and relatives kindly accept this as only information.

MUSIC

Red Army Chorus will perform

Antonio Miranda on 8th March, 1989, 6.30 pm at the Holy Family Cathedral, Kuwait.

Friends and relatives kindly accept this as only information.

ENTERTAINMENT

EVENTS

GOING PLACES



• Indian Shivram, one of the world's shortest men, talks to a friend on the phone as the Jumbo Circus prepares to wind up their show in Kuwait. The last few performances will be held this week at Mishref Fairgrounds.



A day out for Indians

GAYATHRI ARTS, an Indian group in Kuwait, recently held a day-long social event at the Indian embassy premises to celebrate the Nehru Centenary. On offer was spicy south Indian food. While the adults sampled food delights, the youngsters took a ride on one of the mechanical toys provided by the organisers. Hundreds of people attended the social event. Pictures show (above): women serving food to guests; (below) children taking a ride on a mechanical toy.



Unni Menon to come to Kuwait

KERALA singer and actors will present a musical show at Kuwait's Andalus Cinema on April 6 and 7.

Unni Menon, one of the leading male playback singers, will be the main attraction. He will be accompanied by singers Radhika Tilak and Sunanda Raja. Film stars Sobhana and

Vineth will also take part in the show.

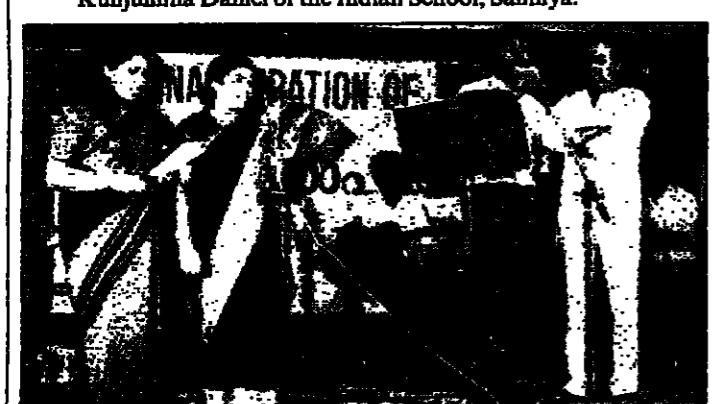
Unni Menon began his singing career in 1983 and is said to be a protege of singer Yesudas. He has so far recorded 200 songs in four Indian languages — Malayalam, Tamil, Kannada and Hindi. He also sings devotional songs.

Kalandar opens KALPAK

THE Kerala Arts and Literature Promoting Association of Kuwait (KALPAK) was formally inaugurated on Friday by TV newscaster Sulaiman Kalandar.

The opening was followed by a variety show. Pandam Mohammed Bashir presided and Varghese Parayadil welcomed guests. KALPAK president K.P. Balakrishnan, Indian embassy First Secretary Varghese Gere and Arab Times Business Editor M.C. Bois spoke on the occasion.

The ladies wing of KALPAK was inaugurated by Mrs Kunjumma Daniel of the Indian School, Salmiya.



Above: (L-R): Mrs Daniel, Kalandar, Bashir, Varghese and Bois pictured at the opening. Left: KALPAK members taking part in the variety show.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Ghadir Gallery

UNTIL March 19: Recent paintings by British water colour artist Patricia Milns will be shown at the Ghadir Gallery, Salikha Complex, mezzanine, Gate 5, daily from 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 8.30 pm.

Sultan Gallery

AN exhibition of paintings by Bangladeshi artist Mounirul Islam is open at the gallery. Thunayan Al Ghaniyah Bldg, Al Soor St., daily except Friday from 9 am to 12 noon and 5 to 8 pm.

Kuwait Science Museum

DAILY: 5 pm onwards: Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Friday: 9 am onwards.

Islamic Arts Museum

SAT - Thurs.: 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

Tareq Rajab Museum

SAT - Thurs.: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

Sadu House

SAT - Thurs.: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

MUSIC

MARCH 5: The Red Army Choir and dance ensemble will perform at the Andalus Cinema, presenting music, dance and ballet with a selec-

tion of folk dances, Cossack and Armenian; plus choral singing. Tickets available at the Andalus Box-Office.

Beast Concert

MARCH 31: A beat concert featuring the Perfect Strangers will be held from 10 am at the Sharq Co-operative Hall. For details call 4831339; 5393151.

British Tea Party

MARCH 10: The British Tea Party/animal fun day will be held at the Messiah Beach Hotel from midday with fun stalls, animal-painting competition, children's super-star contest, soccer and basketball, Leo's magic and other events. For details phone 5624111 ext. 571/739.

Masquerade Ball

MARCH 10: 6 pm. KAPILKU Masquerade Ball at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Andalus Club. Awards for best costume, best mask, best couple. Parlour games and raffle contest are added attractions. Buffet dinner. Entrance: KD. 5.

Contact

MARCH 11-15: The British Council presents an exhibition on British Higher Education. It will feature information on all aspects of higher education in Britain. A group of senior staff from Scottish universities will attend the exhibition. For details contact Education Advisor Kate Harries. Tel: 2520067.

Modern Kuwait

UNTIL March 8: The Kuwait's University's Art and Culture Department is holding a photographic exhibition on "Modern Kuwait," Adeliya. For details call Oje Olor — 5634200.

The association holds its regular monthly coffee morning at the Holiday Inn Hotel. All German-speaking ladies are welcome.

Gala Dinner

MARCH 9: The Great Ormond Street Hospital Gala Dinner will be held at 8 pm. For details call 4831339; 5393151.

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MARCH 10: 6 pm. KAPILKU Masquerade Ball at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Andalus Club. Awards for best costume, best mask, best couple. Parlour games and raffle contest are added attractions. Buffet dinner. Entrance: KD. 5.

Contact

MARCH 11-15: The British Council presents an exhibition on British Higher Education. It will feature information on all aspects of higher education in Britain. A group of senior staff from Scottish universities will attend the exhibition. For details contact Education Advisor Kate Harries. Tel: 2520067.

Modern Kuwait

UNTIL March 8: The Kuwait's University's Art and Culture Department is holding a photographic exhibition on "Modern Kuwait," Adeliya. For details call Oje Olor — 5634200.

EXHIBITION

Bengali Book Show

BENGALI books written by Bangladeshis are still on show at the Bangladesh embassy in Jabiya. More titles are likely to be displayed this week.

Higher Education

MARCH 11-15: The British Council presents an exhibition on British Higher Education. It will feature information on all aspects of higher education in Britain. A group of senior staff from Scottish universities will attend the exhibition. For details contact Education Advisor Kate Harries. Tel: 2520067.

Modern Kuwait

UNTIL March 8: The Kuwait's University's Art and Culture Department is holding a photographic exhibition on "Modern Kuwait," Adeliya.

SOCIAL

MARCH 5: The Red Army Choir and dance ensemble will perform at the Andalus Cinema, presenting music, dance and ballet with a selec-

Gounds. This will be followed by their second inter-village nine-a-side football tournament, beginning April 8. For details contact organisers.

Carom Tournament

MARCH 5: A memorial carom tournament will be held in Farwaniya. To take part call Fernandes: 2423690, 9 am to 12.30 pm or contact Babit at Al Soor ground on Friday morning.

Fun Run

MARCH 17: 30 km fun run for teams of at Messiah Beach Hotel. Commences at 10 am. Registration is strictly limited. For details call Hugh McAree — 5326368 or Jon Evans — 5339867.

Danish Darts Tournament

MARCH 17: Daniella invites all Danes to take part in a darts tournament. It will be held from 4 pm at Gazelle Club. Please register before March 8. Tel: Annette — 3723413; Inglis: 3715637.

Aerobic/Yoga/Swimming

AT Kuwait International Hotel: Aerobics for ladies from 6 to 7 pm every Saturday, Monday and Wednesday.

Yoga every Sunday and Tuesday from 8 pm to 9 pm and on Friday from 10.30 am to 11.30 am.

Swimming starts March 6, 22, Saturdays, Mondays, Wednesdays. For details contact the hotel's recreation manager Colin Hall.

HOTELS

At the SAS

BISTRETTTO: A new Italian restaurant has been opened at the hotel. A selection of Italian dishes are offered in addition to international and local specialities prepared by Chef Peter D. Zobrist.

Al Boom: the floating res-

speciality every two days as well as the Al Boom menu of charcoal grills.

Peacock Room: offers a wide variety of Chinese cuisine introduced by Chef Von Kwee Kiong.

The Clock Drive-In restaurant serves fast foods and daily specials.

At the Kuwait Plaza

AL DALLAH coffee shop: breakfast buffet, lunch and dinner; also set menu; mini-business lunch.

Marco Polo Restaurant: Italian food, live music by the Duonova band.

Lolowah Corner: open from 10 pm, offering snacks and refreshments.

At the Ramada

AL BENDAR Coffee Shop offers Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner; 6 am to midnight; a la carte available.

Thursday's is BBQ Night at Le Mirage Night Club, with full buffet and entertainment by the Al Arza Band.

The Friday Family Brunch introduces cartoon characters on the ship's discovery train tour of the hotel's garden and waterfront.

The Marina Takeaway Counter features a selection of sandwiches and snacks, 4 pm to 11 pm.

At the Continental

GARDENIA: 7 am to midnight; buffets featuring Arabic, Continental and Indian food.

Special buffet for Thursday dinner and Friday lunch. Dabar: daily Indian lunch buffet, except Friday; a la carte dinner.

At Measih Beach

MUBARAKIYAH Restaurant: Open 24 hours, buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner and snacks. Sundays: Ladies Day; Mondays: birthday special; Fridays: special buffet "a go go."

Le Tambouche offers a taste of Lebanon for lunch and dinner. Thursdays: Arab world specialities night.

Coffee Shop offers casual meals and quick lunches plus a daily special.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.25 Cartoon serial
- 10.25 Asma'a Allah Al Husna: religious programme on the occasion of Isra Wal Meraj
- 12.15 Variety Show
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 World News via Satellite
- 1.30 English Feature Film: North of Yukon
- 3.30 Min Fadlak Wa Ahsanak: Arabic feature, starring Salah Zulfikar, Huda Sultan, Hisham Saleem, Faeq Kamal
- 5.15 Tum Tek and Children
- 5.30 Laila Min Alf Laila Wa Laila
- 6.00 Ibn Attiya: historical serial
- 7.05 Ibtibali Deem
- 7.15 Diwaniya Shura Al Nabt: poetry session
- 8.00 Al Hefazat: information film
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Lulu Wa Asdaaf: Arabic serial, starring Omar Al Harairi, Mustafa Fahmi, Madiba



Tom Selleck plays Magnum, tonight on KTV 2.

KTV 2

- Yusri, Tahiya Karim
- 12.45 Al Sadeeq Al Sagheer: Arabic play, featuring Patrick Dufair, Kamal Helu, Fuad Daher, Hussain Moosa
- 01.00 News Summary
- 01.05 World News via Satellite
- 01.35 Holy Quran/ Close-down
- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Dennis the Menace: cartoon serial
- 6.30 The Owl: a show for children
- 7.00 Scientific Eye: "River of Rock."
- 7.30 The Pursuit of Happiness: "Uphill Skiing."
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Magnum: "A Girl Named Sue." Private eye Magnum is involved in intrigue after taking a case of murder. Starring: Tom Selleck
- 9.40 Dive to Adventure: nature
- 10.00 What's Happening Now: "Rodger's Big Break." Comedy.
- 10.30 Best-Seller: "Onassis: the Richest Man in the World." Part one.
- 11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Sports Review
- 40 Words of Faith
- 45 Letter from America
- 0600 Newscast
- 30 Jazz for the Asking
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Sports Review
- 0800 World News
- 09 Words of Faith
- 11 The Signature's Yours
- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 Nature Now
- 30 Financial Review
- 39 Book Choice
- 45 Sport Story
- 1000 News Summary followed by Sports in Action (ex 26th Uriel et Ordre)
- 30 In Praise of God
- 1000 World News
- 09 Newsabout Britain
- 13 From Our Own Correspondent
- 30 Composer of the Month
- 1200 News Summary (ex 12th) followed by Play of the Week: 5th King's Kingdom; 12th Persepolis; 19th Nightmare World; 26th Science Fiction
- 0200 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 The Picture of Dorian Gray
- 30 The Ken Bruce Show
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 09 From Our Own Correspondent
- 0400 Screenplay
- 0400 Newscast
- 30 Sing Gospel
- 45 Worldbrief

- 12 Phone-in (contd)
- 1500 Newscast
- 15 International Recital (ex 26th Concert Hall)
- 1600 World News
- 09 Newsabout Britain
- 15 Colours
- 45 Letter from America
- 1700 World News
- 09 Book Choice
- 15 Jazz for the Asking
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1800 World News
- 30 In Praise of God
- 1900 News Summary followed by Here's Humph!
- 15 Time Will Tell
- 2000 World News
- 09 World Cup
- 22 Words of Faith
- 30 My Music
- 2100 News Summary followed by Sports Roundup
- 15 The Pleasure's Yours
- 2200 Newscast
- 2300 World News
- 15 Letter from America
- 30 5th and 12th Phone-In; 19th and 26th Papa Wojtyla

Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Beethoven Oasi
- 1916 Programme Preview
- 1920 Songs
- 1925 Press Report
- 1940 Ek Khayal El Geet
- 2000 News
- 2

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

WE are inclined to believe those we do not know, because they never have deceived us — Samuel Johnson, English writer (1709-1784).

Riots in Venezuela

IMF inspires fierce emotions

By Keith Grant

MEXICO CITY, (Reuters): Riots in Venezuela inspired by new austerity measures show the International Monetary Fund continues to inspire fierce emotions in Latin America, political analysts and foreign bankers said on Tuesday.

Venezuela, which has resisted fund economic recipes for six years, was due on Tuesday to sign a letter of intent with the IMF. Related austerity measures this week sparked street protests in which up to 100 people were killed and hundreds injured.

"These measures had been put off for too long and it is not fair to blame the IMF," said one US banker with several years' experience in Venezuela.

Venezuelan Finance Minister Egeel Iturbe de Blanco and Central Bank President Pedro Tinoco are in Washington to sign the letter of intent with the IMF for a loan expected to total \$1.3 billion. They also plan talks with private banks on restructuring Venezuela's \$32-billion foreign debt.

Crisis

From the outset of the debt crisis in 1982 the IMF has been vilified by leftist Latin American politicians as a source of suffering in debtor countries. Feeling boiled over in the Dominican Republic and Brazil and scores died in food riots in 1985 and 1986.

In the past couple of years the attacks have abated as the fund, under new managing director Michel Camdessus, has adopted a more sympathetic approach towards debtors.

But the rioting in several Venezuelan cities, which political observers said was well organised, sets foreign debt firmly back on centre stage as a potential time bomb ticking beneath Latin American economies.

Venezuelan President Carlos Perez came to power after December elections promising to ease the debt burden, but soon he about-faced by announcing an austerity package much more sweeping than any previously experienced in the country.

He revealed higher petrol prices, public sector austerity measures to reduce the fiscal deficit, and a plan to unify the exchange rate for Venezuela's currency, now quoted in the free market at 38 to the dollar against

the official rate of 14.50. Growing social pressures in debtor countries, fanned by the impact of rising interest rates on economies and little apparent progress in global debt strategy, could yet lead to drastic confrontational measures in Third World countries.

"Existing recipes are becoming unmanageable. Either we cease paying as a result of negotiations or we declare a unilateral moratorium," a columnist in the pro-government Mexican newspaper *Excelsior* said on Tuesday.

The Venezuelan measures are not tough by Latin American standards — petrol still costs the equivalent of only 70 cents a gallon — but for Venezuelans used to South America's highest living standard, the measures came as a dose of cold water.

The result has been the worst public disturbances since General Marcos Perez Jimenez was overthrown in 1958, ushering in Venezuela's democratic era.

Calm

Apart from a 1960s insurgency that lacked mass support, Venezuela has enjoyed social calm and a 1970s oil bonanza.

"The goal has been to avoid conflict at all costs. Money has permitted this and mistrust of mechanisms that might have managed the conflicts and safeguarded democracy has justified it," Development Minister Moises Naim said in a recent book.

In 1988, the last year of President Jaime Lusinchi's government, imports were allowed to rise to their highest level since 1983 while reserves dwindled.

"Lusinchi must take much of the blame for passing on a legacy of repressed inflation and an artificial exchange rate," the US banker said. "Venezuelans lived in a fairytale land, and now it has caught up with them."

Losers

Though foreign bankers see an IMF programme as less crucial to debtor nation rescue packages than previously, they still insist on agreement with the fund as a condition for new loans.

Mexico is likely to have to accept an IMF programme in a restructuring of its debt. Only Colombia at present is negotiating private bank loans without a formal IMF seal of approval, but it is doing so with difficulty.

Bush spotlights new US role in Asia

By Helen Thomas

WASHINGTON, (UPI): President Bush's Asian swing spotlighted the new US role as a witness rather than as a leader of dramatic political changes under way in the region.

The low-key Bush reaction did nothing to enhance his human rights image.

Bush applauded leaders in China and South Korea for moves toward democracy, but sensing they were riding the wave of the future, they told the United States to mind its own business.

His lectures to Tokyo and Seoul for a better economic shake in trade relations appeared to go nowhere.

True, Bush played a gracious and giving role in attending the funeral of Emperor Hirohito, a symbolic gesture that pleased the Japanese.

But the hard bargaining was postponed, especially over Japan's efforts to enter the field of producing sophisticated military aircraft by co-producing a new fighter plane, the FSX, with the United States.

Secretary of State James Baker promised to support the project, but some administration officials are strongly opposed.

Speech

In South Korea, Bush gave a hard-hitting speech to the divided National Assembly against trade barriers in a country where the United States has 42,000 troops. The response was tepid and there were anti-American demonstrations in the streets.

In China, Bush saw striking changes. Creeping capitalism, attempts at modernisation and more colourful dress were a dramatic contrast to the days of Mao Tse-tung and hardline communism when Bush lived in Beijing.

Despite the breakneck pace of the trip, its lasting impact on American foreign policy was questionable.

For Bush, the most memorable stop was China, where he had served as chief US envoy in 1974-75. He was greeted as an old, well-loved friend.

But even that warm atmosphere was marred by a flap over

Agreements designed to help Americans

THERE has been a great deal of panicky talk in Washington about the threat the European Single Market will pose to American business in 1992. But the experts here also admit that the big American companies have relatively little to fear, that it will be the smaller ones which represent only fifteen to twenty per cent of the total involved which are likely to suffer. Europe will become a tough competitor. All this does not bode well for the future and for future American prosperity.

The real threat to the United States industrial and financial position in the world, these experts warn, is Japan. However much American producers are doing to improve their efficiency, their technical competence and their ability to compete price-wise, they are well behind the Japanese.

There exist a number of confidential agreements the Japanese have been forced to enter into by the United States which are designed to help American producers to remain competitive. One of the most important among those agreements concern semiconductors.

The Japanese have agreed, for instance, to increase the price for semiconductors by as much as five percent under pressure from American competitors who assume that it will enable them to compete with Japanese products.

Profits

What the Americans failed to foresee was that these price increases the Japanese agreed to would vastly increase their profits and thus make them even more competitive with American companies. Even more humiliating is the fact that the Japanese, aware of American anti-trust legislation, asked to be exempt from anti-trust limitations when they agreed to a unified price structure and obtained, however reluctantly, the necessary dispensations.

American manufacturers have

made considerable advances in improving their products, especially the automobile manufacturers, but, according to the experts, there is little expectation that they will be able to reach the quality of the Japanese products. All this does not bode well for the future and for future American prosperity.

Up to now there has been relatively little Japanese investment in the Soviet Union, relatively little export made with Moscow. Relations remain strained because of the Soviet occupation of the Kurile Islands. But recent American visitors to these islands are reporting that the Japanese inhabitants and the Soviet occupiers seem to be getting along surprisingly well and that business activities between the two are improving.

Improve

There is a growing concern here that as relations between Japan and the Soviet Union improve, and they are likely to improve as Gorbachev is softening Soviet foreign relations all around the globe, Japanese investments in the Soviet Union will grow.

Stevardnadze's ten day tour of the Middle East aroused a great deal of attention here, especially since several of his objectives suit American policy-makers. For the first time there is greater recognition of the similarities of the two superpowers' interests in the Middle East, hence a less confrontational attitude between the two. Both, for instance, share a common concern about the presence of ballistic missiles and chemical production facilities in the area and the dangers they represent to peace. Israel and Saudi Arabia, for instance, have missiles with a range that could include targets on Soviet

Inside Washington

By Henry Brandon

territory. Israel, India and Pakistan have nuclear capabilities. Libya is in the process of building chemical weapons. But neither the Soviets nor the Americans have any good ideas of what to do about this growth of dangerous arms accumulations in the region. Together, though, they have the means to intimidate these countries and even if nothing is as yet actively done about discussing these dangers, improving relations between the two superpowers though, it is hoped here might lead to closer consultation about how to deal with this threat.

Negotiations

What is altogether new are the efforts by the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Yasser Arafat to persuade the United States and Israel that, having accepted the existence of Israel as a state, they are now ready to enter into direct negotiations with the Israeli government.

They tell me that, as they have been telling a group of American Middle Eastern experts led by William Quaint of the Brookings Institution, with the unarmed intifada rebellion, the new US-Soviet detente and other crises such as those in Afghanistan and Angola yielding to negotiated solutions, the Israeli-Palestinian

one could be resolved too.

American officials are anxious to encourage this new attitude of the PLO, but they remain sceptical how reliable the change in fact is, and to what extent, if at all, Arafat has control over the extremists in his ranks. Of course, the more the PLO advocates direct negotiations, the more the Israelis get scared of the prospects of such negotiations. The Likud Party gains in last week's local elections confirm that these fears have their political repercussions.

American experts, however believe, that with the intifada continuing unabated and showing no signs of eroding, with the attrition it causes in Israeli society and with the economic situations deteriorating Israel will have to enter into direct negotiations sooner rather than later.

Discussion

The Bush administration is currently hard at work trying to develop a new initiative in the Israeli-Arab peace process. It will include more searching talks than have taken place so far with the PLO. Its present demand for a two-state solution, an independent Palestinian state living side-by-side with Israel is not a basis on which negotiations can be expected to make progress.

President George Bush, I understand, in the earlier days of

Fighting turns dreams to ashes

thousands of Christian families with some income at little real risk.

Many men preferred to join the LF for better pay and free medical, educational and social assistance for family members.

The military, which split during the war, was strapped for funds.

But the Army attracted thousands of recruits with its image as the professional defender of the Christians. Many believed it would ultimately play a national role to bring peace to Lebanon.

Recruitment

The most fertile ground for militia recruitment was among the hundreds of thousands of families made refugees by the war.

In the days after the ceasefire, militiamen and relatives gathered at Mar Elias Church in east Beirut to pray for the return of sons, brothers and husbands still missing.

"Dear God, please protect him, don't deprive me of him, bring him back safely," muttered a distraught woman in black.

Many mothers used to worry that their sons would turn to drugs, always in plentiful supply in Lebanon. Now all they care about is that their children survive.

Um Hanna, a refugee who used to work as a baker in a remote village northeast of Beirut, has heard nothing of her four sons for a fortnight. Two served with the LF and two fought with the Army.

Kampuchean seen unable to end feuds

championed by resistance backers as the man fit to unify Kampuchea, stayed away.

Southeast Asian states and the major powers have put pressure on the warring parties to end war and political upheavals that have ripped the country since Sihanouk's ouster by a military coup in 1970.

But the talks ended here with only vague directions from the belligerents over when, where and how to resume the peace process, which has been spurred by the signs of Sino-Soviet normalisation.

Demand

The talks centred on the monitoring of a Vietnamese troop withdrawal and the end of foreign military aid to the guerrillas.

The Kampuchean factions are expected to have talks among themselves in the near future to discuss how to eventually share power and hold general elections before Jakarta peace talks resume in July.

"It looks like everything might go on hold until after the Sino-Soviet summit in May," a resis-

Soviet magazine questions communists' monopoly on power

Party role under scrutiny

By John-Thor Dahlburg

tion, and says genuine democracy is impossible until the party permits open dissent in its ranks.

Even in the franker atmosphere fostered by President Mikhail Gorbachev's campaign for "glasnost," or greater openness, such harsh criticism of Communist Party practices in an official Soviet publication would have recently seemed impossible.

The article, by widely known sociologist Igor M. Klyamkin, also hints at the central paradox of Gorbachev's blueprint for political change, by noting that Soviet "democratisation" is tak-

ing place in a system where one party has declared itself society's sole legitimate ruler.

Klyamkin does not openly call for the creation of a multi-party system, but that seems the inevitable conclusion many will draw from his criticism of anti-democratic practices he says the Communist Party has engaged in from the days of Soviet founder Vladimir Lenin.

"The major reason for lies starting to dominate society was that the majority, whatever it was composed of, was fated to limit inter-party democracy and violate the rights of the minority. This was discovered even when Lenin was still alive," Klyamkin wrote.

"The political lie leads to catastrophe when some organisation or group of people has a full monopoly on power and information, where nobody can catch them deceiving others, or to put it more simply — when there is no democracy," he said.

"Even if a United Nations peacekeeping force stayed for a couple of years, within a few years there would be a bloodbath," a Western diplomat said.

The article, printed in the February edition of Novy Mir, seems certain to fuel debate about the party's role in political institutions being created this year as part of Gorbachev's plan to further delineate the responsibilities of party and government.

In March, Soviet voters are to elect a new 2,550-seat Council of People's Deputies that will choose a more active Supreme Soviet parliament and the country's president, the post now held by Gorbachev, who is also party general secretary.

Klyamkin said the political reforms, passed by the Supreme Soviet in December, were flawed by measures "which even the most vivid imagination cannot call democratic."

Phnom Penh and the three guerrilla factions who hold Kampuchea's United Nations seat made no significant compromise at the Jakarta talks.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk,

Phnom Penh's foreign affairs

delegate said: China had demanded Vietnam cease

military and political involvement in Kampuchea as a condition for Beijing mending ties with Moscow.

Soviet-backed Vietnam says it will pull out its troops backing Phnom Penh government by September in return for an end to foreign military support to guerrillas.

It says its troops, numbered at 50,000 by Hanoi and up to 70,000 by Washington, will be out by December, 1990, no matter what.

Because Phnom Penh's leaders, many of whom were installed by Hanoi after its 1978 invasion, will be able to protect them-

Compromise

With Vietnam's help and frequent military intercession, Phnom Penh has built up its forces and population base over

most of the country. However, its "people's war" strategy to defeat hardened insurgents is weakest in sparsely populated areas in mountains and near the long

Thai border — traditional Khmer Rouge guerrilla strongholds.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1496 — England's King Henry VII commissions John and Sebastian Cabot to discover new lands.
1684 — Holy League of Linz is formed by Holy Roman Empire, Poland and Venice against the Turks.
1770 — Crowds and British troops clash in Boston, Massachusetts, and incident becomes known as "Boston Massacre" which hastens American revolutionary war.
1794 — Partisans of Jacques Hebert are executed in France; Polish uprising under T.A. Kosciuszko begins.
1796 — Revolts are crushed in Vendee and Brittany in France.
1798 — French forces occupy Bern, Switzerland.
1867 — Abortive Fenian uprising starts in Ireland.
1933 — Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Party win greatest number of seats in German elections.
1960 — President Sukarno suspends Indonesia's Parliament.
1962 — European extremists in Oran, Algeria, raid prison and kill several Muslim political prisoners.
1966 — British airliner hits Japan's Mount Fuji, killing all 124 people aboard.
1970 — Nuclear non-proliferation treaty goes into effect after 43 nations have deposited instruments of ratification.
1974 — Ethiopia's leader Haile Selassie, confronted by continued unrest, agrees to constitutional convention to create new system of elected democratic government.
1975 — Arab commandos land on beach at Tel Aviv, Israel, shoot their way into hotel and hold about 40 guests and employees hostage.
1987 — Gulf war intensifies as Iraq fires six missiles into Tehran and its Air Force attacks other Iranian cities.

SNIPPETS

Policemen being investigated for murder

TWO Manila policemen are being investigated in connection with the killing of an Egyptian and his Filipina companion in Sta. Cruz, Manila the other day, police said. Patrolmen Eliseo Ching and Salvador Sioco, both detailed as guards at the Manila city jail, were invited for questioning in connection with the killing of Yehia Abu Rawach Mohammad, 42, and Esperanza Vitero, 23, along Quezon Blvd. A police officer who spoke on condition he is not identified said both Ching and Sioco were found positive of gunpowder burns when examined.

Extradition treaty between Philippines, Switzerland

THE Philippines and Switzerland are set to sign an extradition treaty soon. Justice Under-secretary Eduardo Montenegro and Hans-Peter Wyssmann, head of the extradition section of the Federal Department of Justice and Police drafted the text of the treaty which will be submitted to their respective governments for approval.

'Sikyus' picket

US embassy

OVER 100 security guards of the United States embassy walked out of their jobs and staged a protest in front of the embassy along Roxas boulevard to denounce American officials for alleged unfair labour practices.

The guards said the US embassy has failed to grant them overtime pay and incentive bonus. The guards were employees of A. Prime Security Services, commissioned to provide security for the embassy premises.

Smuggled goods seized

MORE than P10 million worth of smuggled goods were seized by the Bureau of Customs, including a 40-foot container van loaded with highly dutiable electronic goods imported from Japan. Officials said the goods had been placed under "hold order" since its arrival last Feb. 4 after its named consignees disowned the goods. Some 98 rolls of textile materials from China valued at P120,000 were also confiscated at the Manila International Container Port (MICP).

Sing-Alike contest and Bagong Kampeon

'Copy cats' delight crowd

THE Association of Filipinos in Kuwait (KAPILKU) held their 'Sing-Alike' and 'Bagong Kampeon' contest on Friday at the Al Andalus club at the Holiday Inn Hotel.

Baladeer Milito Mendez who sang "Bebat" imitating Rico J. won the hearts of the judges and won the top prize with an excellent overall mark of 94.25 per cent. Stylish Kernel Singh who rendered a song "Two Less Lonely People in the World" was the second best singer for the day with a score of 91.5 per cent, while Medel Cruz, a Tom Jones clone, sang "I'll Never Fall in Love Again" came third with 86.0 per cent.

In the Bagong Kampeon, the versatile Milito Domingo with her rendition of "Home" almost captured a perfect score and ran away with the highest award for



Milito Domingo, winner of the Bagong Kampeon

By Eileen Guerrero

BATAC, Philippines, (AP) — In the house where Ferdinand Marcos grew up, the memorabilia of his life are on display: furnishings, newspaper clippings, war medals — and his mother, still unburied 10 months after her death.

Josefa Edralin-Marcos died on May 4 in Manila at age 95. But the family postponed burial indefinitely in hopes that President Corazon Aquino would relent and allow the deposed president to come home for the funeral.

Aquino refuses to allow the ailing, 71-year-old Marcos to return, citing national security. Marcos has lived in Hawaii since he was ousted in a popular uprising three years ago.

Edralin-Marcos' body lies in an open, emerald-green casket on the ground floor of the Marcos family home, still maintained as a museum in honour of the deposed president.

Dressed

She is dressed in a white embroidered gown that covers every inch of flesh except her heavily made-up face. A slip of paper, resting on the glass over her face, marks the number of days since her death. Relatives say a mortician visits every two months to inject embalming fluid.

Gone are the large crowds that turned out to view "Dona Josefa" when the body was brought last year from Manila to this town in Ilocos Norte



The body of Dona Josefa lies in state awaiting burial. A curious mix of tourists, relatives, Marcos loyalists and religious fanatics still gather daily to view the body.

province, 240 miles (345 kilometres) north of the capital.

National newspapers in Manila, as well as most of the country's 58 million people, have all but forgotten the wake except for occasional jokes in the capital about "Marcos' Mummy."

But a curious mix of tourists, relatives, die-hard Marcos loyalists and religious fanatics still

gather daily to view the body. They offer prayers not only for the soul of the former school teacher, but for the return of Marcos. "Personally, I want her to be buried so her soul can rest," said Vice-Mayor Rodolfo Yadao, a member of Marcos' New Society Movement Party.

"She looks so fresh," Marcos'

niece, Cynthia Poblete-Chan, said as she gazed at her grandmother's body. "We're just waiting for their (Marcos') word" when to bury her in the family plot at the eastern edge of this town of about 40,000 people.

Banners with slogans such as "the whole Filipino nation is condoling" hang on the walls of the family home, along with pic-

tures of Marcos, his wife, Imelda, and other mementos of his life.

Three times a day, a small group of Marcos supporters gathers around the bier to pray the rosary. On a recent visit, about five loyalists were praying.

Local residents have been joined recently by members of a religious sect, the Alpha-Omega, who believe that the return of Marcos is part of some sort of divine plan for the Philippines.

Members

Cult members, dressed in red and blue shirts printed with the words Alpha-Omega, keep an almost daily watch by the bier. When Poblete-Chan appeared recently, cult members knelt before her and kissed her hand reverently.

Teresita Maglahus, a spokeswoman for the group, said the cultists followed Edralin-Marcos' body here after their leader, known only as "Mama Rose," received a "vision from God." "Lola (Edralin-Marcos) needs prayers for her soul," Maglahus said. "Nothing can stop God and the return of Marcos. If people only knew who Marcos is, they would kneel down in front of him."

In a town where Marcos is still revered as a favourite son, local officials say the wake for Dona Josefa could go on indefinitely until the former president himself finds the words for burial.

Masses were said in several churches in the Batac area on Feb. 15, Edralin-Marcos' 96th birthday, local residents said.

Diplomat alleges US interference in foreign office

By Cynthia D. Balana

A SENIOR diplomat has claimed that the United States had been interfering with the affairs of the Philippines foreign office and had been responsible for the ouster of ambassadors believed to be responsible for the strengthening of Philippine-Soviet relations.

Ambassador Romeo Fernandez, who was once assigned to Moscow, made the disclosure during a press conference called by the family and friends of the embattled Philippine Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Alejandro Melchor Jr. Fernandez was one of those invited to ventilate on the Melchor case.

In related developments:

• The Senate committee of foreign affairs headed by Sen. Leticia Ramos-Shahani is set to investigate what she called the "arbitrary ouster" of Melchor and the charges of irregularities hurled against him;

• Vice-President Salvador Laurel, the former foreign secretary, said he had approved the construction of the Tamaraw Club in the Philippine embassy in Moscow and had been responsible for the appointment of two counsellors to the Moscow embassy;

• The family of Melchor appealed anew to President Aquino to allow him to come home to clear his name before his state visit to Moscow in August this year.

Fernandez, who himself was in trouble following his assignment to Moscow, said proof of US intervention in the country's foreign affairs was the secret arrangement made by the officials of Department of Foreign Affairs with the US Embassy in Manila on the issuance of visas to Soviet

nationals.

He said that before a visa is issued to a Soviet citizen, the DFA must first get "a security clearance" from the Central Intelligence Agency through the US embassy in Manila.

US embassy spokesman Jerry Huchel refused to comment on Fernandez's expose.

Fernandez said he became familiar with secret arrangement when he was still the chargé d'affaires of the Moscow embassy from 1982 to 1983. Fernandez was recalled last year by the BFSA for marrying Tatiana Iachina, suspected to be a Soviet spy, without permission from the home office.

The board accused Fernandez of being an accomplice of Iachina based on a report of the National Intelligence Co-ordinating Council.

But the NICA could not produce the alleged report when Fernandez asked for it, he said. He had accused the CIA of engineering his recall.

Fernandez recalled that when several Soviet officials were invited by the Philippine government to attend an international conference, he had to make a request to the home office before issuing the visas.

But the DFA referred the matter to the American embassy here for "security clearance." The clearance to issue the visas to Soviet participants, he said, was granted only after the CIA had confirmed that the applicants had no derogatory records. As a result, the Soviets arrived when the conference was about to end.

"Why do we have to hold an international conference and invite the Soviets to participate and then make it dependent upon a foreign power to decide whether these people will be allowed to enter the Philippines or not?" asked Fernandez.

Corrupt officers linked to drug traffickers

THE Narcotics Command (NARCOM) and the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) have pointed to the political, police and military connections of drug syndicates as the reasons behind the worsening drug addiction problem in the country.

Appearing before the house sub-committee on standards and regulations, deputy commander of the narcotics command Col. Federico De La Cruz and DDB executive director Dr. Manuel Supnet said that unless corrupt government officials and law enforcers are weeded out of service the problem of drug addiction will further deteriorate.

They also pointed out that drug abuse has become a major threat to national security, next to the insurgency considering that drug syndicates are now

heavily armed and financed. Because of their strong political connections, they easily escape prosecution, they said.

Cruz and Supnet proposed that the reimposition of the death penalty on drug pushers, financiers, and even cultivators of marijuana can help curb drug addiction.

Activities

Drug pushing should be included among the heinous crime punishable by death in a proposed measure by the house of representatives pushing capital punishment, they said.

Although the activities of the drug syndicates are known to law enforcement, De La Cruz said, they could not just make arrests because of the politicians, police and military men behind the operations.

The EDSA revolution: has it lost its meaning?

By Marilou R. Octaviano

THREE years have already slipped away since the 1986 EDSA revolution. The time when Filipinos men, women, and children flooded the long stretch of EDSA to protect Enrile, Ramos and their men from possible attacks by Marcos' forces. It was the time when people from all walks of life, including priests and nuns, were gathered together by a revolution in which the supposed enemies were seen as fellow Filipinos commanding respect.

A revolution that suddenly and miraculously transformed into a fiesta-carnaval as more people trooped to EDSA, bringing with them provisions not for combat but for a family picnic. Love pervaded the air as civilians embraced the battle-gear soldiers. Gone were the pickpockets, the snatches and muggers conspicuously present in such big crowds. It was a revolution where prayers, singing, and storytelling were heard instead of bombings and gunshots. A revolution of peace rather than violence, won by "people power" uniquely Filipino.

Note

It is sad to note that our people have never learned. Or have they not understood the lessons the EDSA revolution left behind? What happened during those four days of February may not be possible again. If another revolution takes place, it may not be that "peaceful" anymore. The Filipinos should not hope for another "miracle." God has intervened then and has already shown the way to peace and happiness through the power of faith, prayers, respect for fellow Filipinos, commitment and self-sacrifice: the true spirit of the EDSA revolution.

United

Had the Filipinos who trooped to EDSA been faithful, they wouldn't have had the courage to face the tanks and armaments of the soldiers. They would have probably rushed to EDSA with icepicks or bolos instead of crucifixes, rosaries, and images of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It

was sheer faith that made them believe them and wouldn't allow any bloodshed.

They became united by prayers. And it was their support that filled the air instead of gunshots. Even if they had to sit and sleep on the dusty roads for four seemingly endless days, they did not complain. They managed to smile and laugh despite the discomforts. They learned to share whatever little food they had, to both strangers and foes. For once, the Filipino people learned what humility and justice meant. And how they showed it, perhaps, unconsciously then.

There was no bloodshed because they saw each other as Filipinos and not as people divided by their leaders. They knew there was no need to kill each other. It was this respect for the other's life that made every Filipino in EDSA committed to protecting his fellowmen to the extent of willingly sacrificing us now.

Through the EDSA revolution, God spoke in our hearts. And the message He wanted us to heed is written in the Holy Scripture, 2 Chronicle, 7:14: "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will heal their land."

If only our people would digest God's message, they would understand what EDSA revolution really meant. And only then will they appreciate why they have to keep it alive in their hearts.



Milao Mendez, winner of the Sing-Alike contest receives his prize from the sponsor.

KAPILKU's new projects

Masquerade Ball

A GRAND Masquerade Ball organised by KAPILKU will be held on Friday, March 10, at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Al Andalus at 6:30 pm.

This is the first of its kind in the history of KAPILKU and promises to be an extraordinary event as all the guests will be required to wear a mask when entering the hotel.

The mask will be removed only at the end of the evening.

Special awards will be given for the best costume, best masks and best couples. Entries is KEDS 5,000 with buffet dinner.

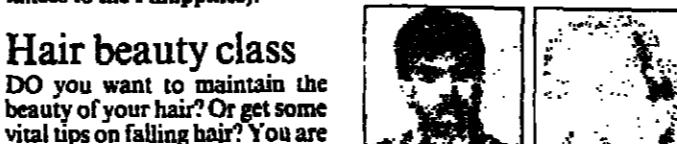
Parlour games and raffle contests will be an added attraction. The Masquerade Ball is sponsored by Al Widad International Exchange (Door to Door remittances to the Philippines).

A certificate of attendance will be awarded to all successful participants. The class is free for KAPILKU members.

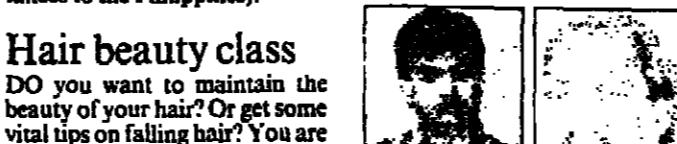
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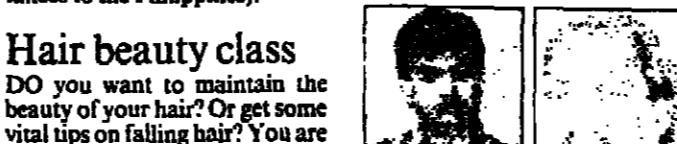
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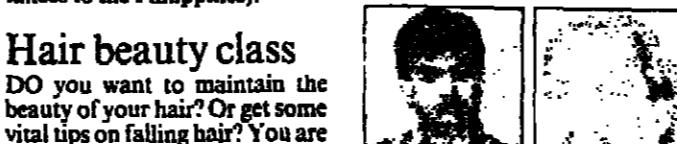
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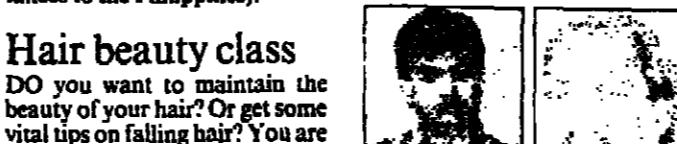
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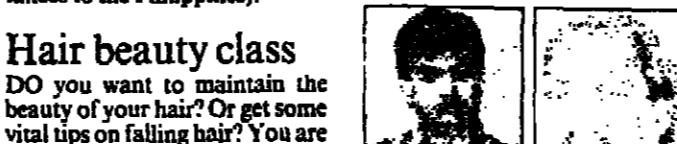
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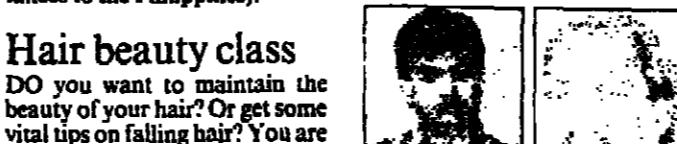
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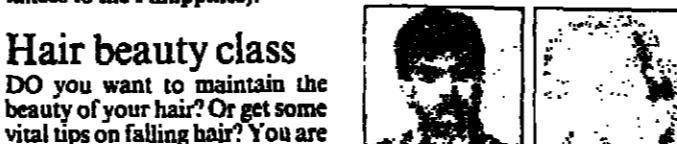
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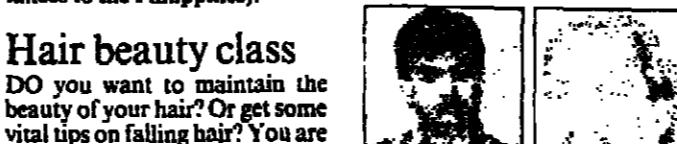
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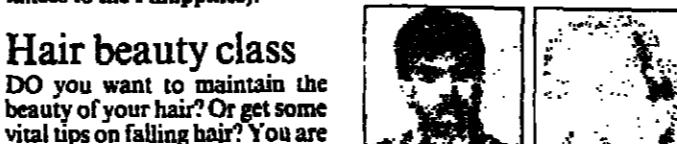
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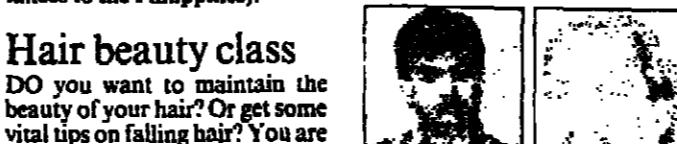
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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

NASA's Venus probe to help solve age-old question — is man alone in the galaxy?

No-one believes life could exist on Venus, with surface temperatures of 400°C, yet, its geology may contain an all-important clue to the earth's uniqueness. The spacecraft Magellan, to be launched on April 28, will probe this mystery.

By Adrian Berry

WITH American space shuttles flying once more, the exploration of the planets is about to undergo a long-awaited and vigorous revival.

An ambitious NASA programme of new missions promises vastly to increase knowledge of the solar system and prepare it for ultimate colonisation.

But most exciting will be a probe to Venus which will help to solve the age-old question of whether man is alone in the galaxy.

The spacecraft Magellan, to be launched by the shuttle Atlantis on April 28, will use radar to make detailed maps of the surface of that red-hot world.

Riddle

"The most important goal of this mission," said Dr Moatafa Chahine, chief scientist at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Pasadena, California, "will be to discover whether Venus has tectonic plates like the Earth or whether its surface is a single crust."

While no-one believes life could exist on Venus, with surface temperatures of 400°C its geology may contain an all-important clue to the mystery of why the Earth appears to be a

unique world among billions of solar systems.

The key to this riddle is moving tectonic plates. Familiar on this planet as the causes of earthquakes, they are believed also to be the main reason for the rise not only of life but intelligence.

Continuous venting of gases from the Earth's interior as the plates shifted produced a breathable atmosphere of oxygen and nitrogen, while the constant movement of the continents made our world's surface partly land and partly water.

This enabled our amphibian ancestors to evolve in the sea and then colonise the land. And the splitting of the continents' isolated animal species in different places so they could evolve separately. Advanced life did not have to arise in these conditions, but only in these conditions could it have done so.

"We have seen no sign of intelligent life elsewhere in the galaxy," said Dr Jerome Pearson, of the US Air Force Flight Dynamics Laboratory at Dayton, Ohio, the author of a bold new theory to explain this absence. "And so we must suspect life does not exist."

But if this is so, it would suggest that something about the Earth must be unique. I believe it is the presence of our very large Moon, a satellite far larger in

proportion to its parent world than the moon of any other known planet, whose tidal drag over billions of years has created moving tectonic plates and continental drift.

Venus has no moons, and consequently no strong exterior tidal influences like the Earth. Venus should therefore be without tectonic plates. If this prediction proves correct, it greatly strengthens the case for the uniqueness of man. If not, the mystery of the absence of little green men will become more baffling than ever."

On October 12, America's Galileo spacecraft will set off for Jupiter on a six-year mission never before attempted — to release a probe that will descend by parachute into the hostile Jovian atmosphere of hydrogen, ammonia and methane.

This "surface" is in all likelihood lashed by torrents of ammonia rain, triggered by thunderstorms of stupendous violence. From the evidence of radio outbursts that reach us from Jupiter, it has been calculated that these bursts, following each other in staccato succession, have the equivalent energy of 100,000 million Earthly strokes of lightning.

Object

Astronomers are taking bets on how many miles the probe will be able to descend before it is crumpled like tinfoil by the mounting pressure of gases. It should reveal some extraordinary information before its destruction.

Jupiter is a monster among worlds. If it were only 10 times bigger, the planet would be a sun in its own right, shining with its own thermonuclear fire.

Jupiter is 1,300 times bigger

than the Earth and 318 times heavier. Its gravity is so strong, a person who weighed 150 pounds on Earth would weigh nearly a quarter of a ton on the planet's surface.

Yet it is doubtful Jupiter even

has a "surface" as we understand the term. It is believed that some 2,000 miles inside its atmosphere there is a layer of semi-solid hydrogen, or hydrogen "slush."

The next decade will see two important missions to Mars, a planet much like the Earth, which will be precursors to manned landings early in the next century.

NASA's Mars Observer, to be launched in 1992, will orbit the planet and photograph it for 21 months — one Martian year observing its topography and the changing seasons.

Eager

In particular, scientists are eager to get a better view of the "face," a mile-wide object in the region of Cydonia that may be an artefact of a long vanished civilisation.

Before the year 2000, the Mars Sample Return Mission will see unmanned vehicles roving the surface. After 300 days of this robotic exploration, samples of rocks and soil will be collected and rocketed into Mars' orbit for return to Earth. Much more

needs to be known about conditions on the surface of Mars before people can be sent there.

With forthcoming expeditions to even more distant and unimaginably alien worlds with seas of frozen methane, critics will increasingly ask what it is all for. The answer is plain. Far from merely satisfying man's curiosity, these missions will closely affect the future of the human race.

This idea was best expressed by Professor Nicholas Kardashev, of the Institute for Space Research in Moscow, who believes a civilisation goes through three stages.

He sees the modern world as a Phase I civilisation which draws on the resources of a single planet; a Phase II civilisation, to which these missions ultimately belong, takes an entire solar system as its domain.

And, if Dr Pearson is correct about the absence of interfering extraterrestrials, it may be only a few million years before we become a Phase III civilisation occupying a large part of a whole galaxy.

An artist's impression of NASA's Galileo spacecraft (above) which will probe the hostile Jovian atmosphere; and the robotic rover (above left), part of the Mars Sample Return Mission to put unmanned vehicles on the planet before 2000.

Computer translations coming of age in Japan

By Steven Brull

TOKYO, (Reuters): Decades after Western scientists first dreamed of teaching computers the art of translation, the idea is becoming commercially viable in Japan.

While electronics giants such as Fujitsu, Hitachi and Toshiba and some smaller firms, have for years offered translation systems for technical documents, total sales amount to only a few thousand and many systems sit idle.

But smarter systems and surging demand for translations of Japanese suggest sales could mushroom, experts said.

"In two to three years we could see an explosion of users, up to 10 times as many as now," said Makoto Nagao, professor of electrical engineering at Kyoto University and one of Japan's leading researchers.

Accuracy

Restricted to scientific or technical topics, the systems often achieve translation accuracy rates of 70 per cent or higher. Texts must then be laboriously checked by human translators, but fine-tuned systems still yield savings.

But the day when computers translate books, let alone poetry, is still a long way off, experts said.

Japan has long translated massive volumes of Western manuscripts, but now the excellence of Japanese industry and technology is spurring demand for English translations of Japanese manuals, scientific abstracts and financial data.

"Quick information is vital to high technology fields. If it's five to six months late, it's no longer interesting to researchers," said Maurice Bourne, the European Economic Community's attaché for scientific and technological affairs in Tokyo.



A Japanese computer operator shows off her machine

Molecule memory baffles scientists, delights homoeopaths

By Simon Haydon

PARIS, (Reuters): Biologist Jacques Benveniste explains the discovery that is baffling the international scientific community with the following comparison.

"It's like waving your car key in the River Seine in central Paris, taking a few drops of water from the same river 200 km (130 miles) downstream and being able to start your car with that water."

For the French biologist and a team of 13 Canadian and Italian scientists have discovered that a molecule diluted until it no longer exists can behave as if it was still there, and that the diluted liquid retains the molecule's "memory".

The discovery, which upsets all established molecular knowledge, is so surprising to the scientific community that the team has been trying to disprove its own findings for three years, but has kept returning to the same result.

The results have also delighted supporters of homoeopathic medicine, who have never known exactly how minute quantities of natural substances like belladonna and opium can have healing qualities.

Many scientists have said there was no evidence that products used in homoeopathic medicine can cure illnesses, but supporters say the new discovery could show that the products retain the "memory" of substances that have curing qualities.

"If there was one certainty in our biological universe until now it was that for every function there was a corresponding molecule. Our studies show the existence of a molecular-type effect in the absence of the molecule," said Benveniste.

Benveniste began his research in 1985 with a relatively simple question. Could it be proved that homoeopathic medicines produced with natural substances rather than laboratory manufactured drugs — had a biological effect on people?

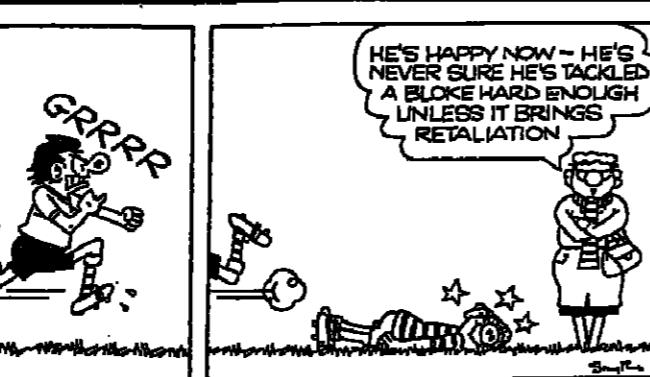
To find an answer, molecules were diluted to the largest extent possible, 10 to the power of 160. The number of particles in the universe totals 10 to the power of 60.

According to Avogadro's law, a molecule no longer exists when it is diluted beyond 10 to the power of 23. The research team's work is the first time it has been suggested that a molecule could have a biological memory.

By Smith

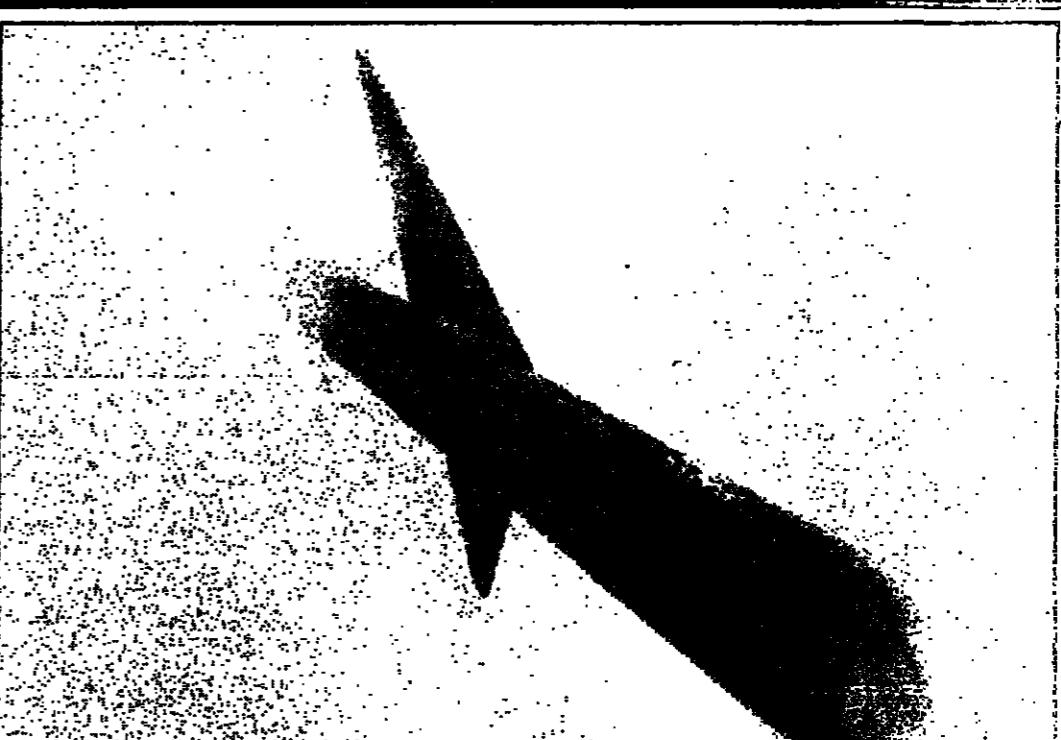


ANDY CAPP



By Smith

Andy Capp is a British comic strip created by Dik Browne. It follows the life of Andy Capp, a working-class man, and his family. The strip is known for its satirical take on everyday life and social issues of the 1950s and 1960s.



A high-tech rocket launched from the wing of a B-52 bomber. If successful, this technique will eliminate the need for traditional ground-fired boosters and costly launch pads.

Revolutionizing satellite delivery

By Vincent Del Giudice

FAIRFAX, Virginia, (UPI): An ageing B-52 bomber is on the verge of revolutionizing the satellite delivery business with a high-tech rocket launched from its wing and named for the flying horse Pegasus of Greek mythology.

Built by Orbital Sciences Corp. of Fairfax, Va., and Hercules Aerospace Co. of Wilmington, Del., Pegasus is scheduled to blaze across the sky on its high-stakes maiden voyage off the California coast this summer.

If it proves successful, the cost of launching payloads of 600 pounds into a "useful" earth orbit will be \$6 million, about half the price and twice the capacity of the ground-based Scout rocket, said David Rossi, director of business development for OSI.

"We've dropped the minimum amount you would have to spend to get into orbit," Rossi said. "We always joke that it was only used by little old lady test pilots on the USAF's capital."

The three-stage, solid-fuel Pegasus, which cost \$40 million to develop, will eliminate the need for traditional ground-fired boosters and costly launch pads, while delivering payloads into polar or equatorial orbits.

The sleek black rocket, which will be strapped beneath the B-52's right wing, resembles a giant torpedo with a broad delta wing and tail fins. It measures 49 feet (15m) in length, with a diameter of 50 inches (1.27m) and a wingspan of 22 feet (6.70m).

The rocket's wing and fins, constructed of lightweight graphite composite, are being made by Burt Rutan, creator of the Voyager aircraft that carried Rutan's brother, Dick, and aviator Jeana Yeager on a non-stop around-the-world trip. Pegasus will be carried aloft

cruising altitude of approximately 40,000 feet (12.2 km). Pegasus will be dropped from its wing. Five seconds later the rocket's first stage motor will ignite and carry it to an altitude of 208,000 feet (63.4 km) and a speed nine times greater than the speed of sound.

After the spent first stage and its graphite wing are jettisoned, the second stage will carry the payload to 552,000 feet (168,000 km) at a velocity of 17,800 feet (5.4 km) per second — about 12,000 mph (1930 kph). The third and final stage will place the cargo in an orbit more than 250 miles (400 km) over the plant.

Many people, from those in the aerospace industry to amateur space enthusiasts, are eagerly awaiting the maiden flight, which will carry a payload for the Defense Department.

According to a recent article in *Ad Astra*, the Journal of the National Space Society, "compared to ground-launched rockets of similar size, Pegasus has double the payload capacity. Its performance is due to several characteristics unique to air-launched vehicles."

"First, the aircraft's velocity gives Pegasus an added boost. In the case of Pegasus, this translates into a 1 to 2 percent performance increase over ground-launched rockets."

Pegasus can also be launched despite poor ground weather conditions. Its jet carrier flies high above storm clouds and dangerous lightning bolts, which can blast a soaring rocket to pieces.

Pegasus, a high-tech rocket launched from the wing of a B-52 bomber, will revolutionise the launching of payloads of 600 pounds into a useful earth orbit if it proves successful.

from Vandenberg Air Force base, Calif., by the same relatively low-tech NASA B-52 bomber, built in 1952, that launched experimental X-15 rocket planes in the 1950s and 1960s.

"It's the eighth B-52 that was ever made but it only has 2,000 flight hours," Rossi said. "We always joke that it was only used by little old lady test pilots on the USAF's capital."

The high-flying X-15 was not designed to travel into space although it laid important groundwork for projects like Pegasus, but the fielding rocket and historic rocketplane look somewhat alike.

No other country or aerospace company has attempted a similar project, Rossi said, but advancements in structural, material and computer design in recent years have made this venture possible.

"It's a combination of a lot of the technology developed in the last 10 years," he said. "We have five times better (on-board) flight computational capability" than the 1970s-era computers on America's space shuttle fleet.

"We don't use all that computational capability," Rossi added. "But it exists."

Once the silver B-52 reaches its

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Second stage of Iraqi pipeline across Saudi Arabia on schedule

KUWAIT, March 4, (OPECNA): Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Raheem Al Chalabi confirmed here yesterday that the second stage of the giant Iraqi oil pipeline being built across Saudi Arabia was on schedule and would be completed in September this year.

While confirming that Iraq would export its oil through the Gulf, he said there are no plans at present to export Iraqi gas across Turkey, but added that there were other aspects of co-operation between the two countries in the oil sector.

Al Chalabi, talking to a local newspaper, hoped that Egypt would return to the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) in May, as the majority of members wished to restore Cairo's membership suspended after it signed the Camp David accords with Israel.

Hopeful

Asked about the proposed OPEC summit, he said the last one was held in 1975 and though the next one was to be staged in 1980, it had to be put off owing to the outbreak of Gulf hostilities. He was hopeful it would now be held, since most OPEC member states felt positively towards it.

Al Chalabi noted that oil prices had improved, adding that around four million BPD had been withdrawn from the market. He was confident that oil producing countries would not increase their production. He emphasised the desirability of maintaining prices at a fair and reasonable level.

Sony applies for US TV research grant

TOKYO, March 4, (AP): Sony Corp. of America has applied to participate in a US Defence Department programme for development of high-definition television equipment, a Sony official said today.

Sony's application for \$30 million in government grants is expected to lead to controversy over foreign participation in US government-funded research programmes.

When the programme was announced by the US Defence Department in December, defence officials reportedly described it as a means to help US electronics firms catch up with Europe and Japan, both of which already have developed high-definition television systems.

High-definition TV, or HDTV, provides pictures that are much clearer and more detailed than that offered by regular television equipment.

Bidders

But in January, US officials said the programme would be open to foreign bidders because federal procurement regulations require open competition.

Sony Corp of America submitted bids to the US Defence Department's defence advanced research projects agency for HDTV displays, receivers and signal processing equipment, the Sony official said.

Zenith Electronics Corp and American Telephone and Telegraph Co. said on Tuesday they had formed a partnership to produce HDTV equipment and also submitted a bid for the Defence Department project. More than 80 bids were received for the research programme, News reports said.

System

European companies have developed a separate HDTV system that is not compatible with the Japanese system, and plan to begin marketing equipment in 1992, officials say.

Last summer, the US Federal Communications Commission set preliminary standards for future US HDTV broadcasts that are incompatible with both the Japanese and European systems.

At that time, US electronics officials expressed hope that the separate standards would allow American makers time to catch up with foreign competitors in the US market, and urged the US government to support HDTV development.

US industry officials expressed chagrin today that Sony might take part in the US Defence Department research programme.

Interest rates may back up further, says analyst

Economic slowdown slow in coming

NEW YORK, March 4, (AP): It has been a long wait for Wall Streeters looking for signs of a much-predicted slowdown in the economy.

The script written by most bulls on the stock market for 1989 called for business activity to cool off, allowing interest rates to top out and turn downward.

That, in turn, would ease the competitive pressure on the stock market that comes from virtually riskless money-market securities such as treasury bills yielding close to 9 percent.

But approaching the end of the first quarter of the year, there is little evidence at hand that the economy is yielding to credit-tightening by the Federal Reserve.

On Friday, for example, the Commerce Department reported that the index of leading

economic indicators rose 0.6 per cent in January after posting a 0.7 per cent increase the month before.

If a slackening of growth is in the offing, it hasn't shown up yet in that statistical early-warning system.

Slowdown

But many adherents to the "slowdown" view still insist the picture is likely to change before long.

"We will soon see softer economic numbers and a peaking of rates," declares John Connolly at Dean Witter Reynolds Inc.

"There is a myth that the Federal Reserve has not been tough enough. Two years ago the prime rate was resting at 7-1/2 percent. Now it is 11-1/2 percent. It's 400 basis points, or an increase over 50 percent."

"There should be little doubt that a double-digit prime, coupled with double-digit mortgage rates, will be reflected in economic activity."

Growth

Maury Harris, economist at the PaineWebber Investment Company, said the Fed stepped up its credit-tightening in November after it concluded that growth had been restrained to some extent, but not enough to satisfy the Central Bank's inflation-fighting goals.

"Given lags between changes in monetary policy and the ultimate effects on the economy, it was too soon to expect the recent crop of January economic statistics to show very much effect from the tightening since November," Harris stated.

However, because tightening

"worked" last year, it should do so again.

Hopes on that score helped the stock market achieve some grading gains in the past week, recouping some of the previous week's steep losses.

Drop

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials rose 28.75 to 2,274.29, rebounding from a 79.28-point drop the week before.

The New York Stock Exchange composite index gained 2.18 to 163.90; the Nasdaq composite index for the over-the-counter market added 4.03 to 403.99, and the American Stock Exchange market value index was up 4.73 to 326.22.

Volume on the Big Board averaged 155.66 million shares a day, against 154.03 million in the preceding week.

Some observers, of course, worry not that the Fed has been too cautious but that it has gone too far, setting the economy on course for a recession.

In the view of Hugh Johnson at First Albany Corp., there are good reasons to worry about inflation.

Strengthen

"Inflation rates are likely to strengthen. Federal Reserve policy should remain taut, and interest rates may back up further," Johnson said.

"By midyear, the economy should begin to slow and the rate of inflation should begin to recede."

"The Federal Reserve has not tightened enough to cause a recession, although the risk that they will over the near term, should be taken seriously."

World Business Summary

Frenzied investors push Istanbul stocks to new peak

ISTANBUL, March 4, (Reuters): Crowds of frenzied investors pushed trading volume at the Istanbul Stock Exchange to an all-time high as Turkish stocks hit a 1989 peak yesterday. "Look at this," shouted one dealer amid hectic bidding. "Two months ago nobody cared. Now everyone is thirsty to trade." The index hit a high of 563.82 before closing at 549.68 after profit-takers moved in. Trading volume was a record 3,063 billion lire (\$1.5 million). At the exchange, a crowd of about 900 people strained to see the prices. They included elderly shopkeepers, university students, smart young businessmen and even gold dealers from the bazaar.

"One dealer gave a hundred million lire (\$50,000) cheque to his young shopkeeper and sent him down here. He told the boy to buy whatever he thought best," one dealer said. The rise in the index of 4.3 percent on Thursday and 29.2 percent last Friday was due to the price of shares being seen as undervalued, to cuts in bank deposit rates, expectations of lower inflation and poor returns from investment in gold and foreign currencies, bankers said.

"Why should I buy gold or deposit my money in banks? They are all wiped out by the cost of living. So I am going to buy stocks," said an old woman wearing a headscarf. The upturn in stocks also reflects good results from companies last year despite 75 percent inflation. The optimistic mood was underlined by Prime Minister Turgut Ozal who described a \$1.5 billion balance of payments surplus in 1988 as "a historic turning point." "Since 1973, Turkey had always had a deficit," Ozal told a news conference in Ankara. Long-term hopes that prices will rise are linked to a \$60-million Turkish investment fund due to be launched this summer. It is the first of several foreign mutual funds worth hundreds of millions of dollars waiting for permission to buy into Turkish stocks, bankers say.

"Prices are still low and the raw will go on until they reach a realistic level... a share in a water company was costing less than a bottle of water it made," said Mustafa Karci, chairman of the Istanbul Stock Exchange.

Bahrain raises rate ceilings on dinar deposits

BAHRAIN, March 4, (Reuters): Bahrain has raised its interest rate ceilings on dinar-denominated deposits in the wake of sharp rises in international rates, a spokesman for the Bahrain Monetary Agency (BMA) said today. The BMA told the island's 19 commercial banks it would raise the maximum recommended rates for maturities of up to six months by one percentage point effective March 1, the spokesman said. There will be no limit on yields for maturities of over six months duration. The spokesman said the step, which applies only to private customers, was aimed at stemming a possible outflow of dinars into higher-yielding dollar deposits.

Support

The IMF has few friends on Capitol Hill. Some Congressmen think its loans bail out commercial banks. Conservatives dislike its loan conditions. Liberals, even before the Venezuelan disorders, blamed the fund for imposing austerity.

Suggestions

"The fund has no natural constituency," a monetary source said. Whereas the World Bank enjoys support from businesses that get procurement orders and from countries that benefit from its development loans, the IMF gets no thanks for being called in to help solve economic crises, he said.

Oil discovery

LONDON, March 4, (KUNA): British oil giant BP has made a "significant" oil discovery off the south coast of Ireland, it was reported here today.

The ministry announcement did not include breakdowns of trade figures by country or region.

Greenspan worried about pace of budget talks

Oil discovery

WASHINGTON, March 4, (Reuters): US Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan, preaching his budget sermon on Capitol Hill for the fifth time in 10 days, chided Congress yesterday for dragging its feet on reducing the budget deficit.

Senate confirms Watkins as energy secretary

Oil discovery

WASHINGTON, March 4, (AP): The Senate voted 99-0 today to confirm James D. Watkins as energy secretary, handing the retired Admiral the "daunting challenge" of refurbishing the Energy Department's crippled network of nuclear weapons factories.

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SPORTS

MIANDAD'S INJURY GIVES THE TOURING SIDE A BLOW

New Zealand cruise to 7-wicket win over Pakistan

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, March 4. (Reuter) — New Zealand cruised to a seven-wicket win over a Pakistani side missing star batsman Javed Miandad in a one-day match today.

New Zealand scored 171 for three in 40.5 overs in reply to Pakistan's 170 for seven in 47 overs. The match was scheduled for 50 overs each but was cut to 47 after rain interrupted play for half an hour.

Pakistan suffered a major blow before the game even began when Miandad was carried off the ground on a stretcher after injuring his back in practice.

Strength. He was taken to hospital for tests but team officials said no news was expected on his condition for 24 hours.

The home side was also under strength with fast bowler Richard Hadlee unfit for the match, the first of four one-day games, because of an ankle problem which began in the final Test against Pakistan.

The Pakistanis suffered a further blow when New Zealand captain John Wright won the toss and put them in on a green pitch which seamed and bounded.

Pakistan never fully recovered from the loss of four early wickets.

ets, and although a late run flurry saw them reach 170, it was never going to be enough.

New Zealand lost both their openers for just 12 but a 103-run third wicket partnership between Andrew Jones and Martin Crowe ensured victory was not in doubt.

Jones and Crowe scored most of their runs by pushing the ball for ones and twos although Jones periodically unleashed a back foot off-drive to the boundary.

Careless.

When Crowe was out to a careless lofted shot to cover-point, the left-handed Mark Greatbatch carried on where he left off with positive cricket. He hit a quick 35 not out.

Fast bowler Danny Morrison set New Zealand up for the win when he ripped through Pakistan's top order.

He had Shoaib Mohammad caught at first slip for two, bowled fellow opener Mudassar Nazar for eight and then bowled Azam Malik for seven.

Paceman Gary Robertson chimed in by trapping Salim Malik leg before wicket for six to have Pakistan 23 for four.

Pakistan captain Imran Khan together with Miandad's replacement Rameez Raja attempted to rebuild the innings. When Imran went for 38 after

Scoreboard	
Mudassar Nazar b Morrison	8
Shoaib Mohammad c Greatbatch b Morrison	2
Azam Malik b Morrison	7
Salim Malik lbw b Robertson	6
Imran Khan c Crowe b Saadullah	38
Rameez Raja run out	51
Ejaz Ahmed not out	42
Abdul Qadir run out	0
Taseef Ahmed not out	8
Extras (lb-4 w-2 lb-2)	8
Total (for seven wickets, 47 overs)	170
Did not bat: Salim Jaffer, Asghab Javed.	
Bowling: Morrison 10-2-44-3, Watson 10-1-47-0 (1-wb), Robertson 9-2-21-1 (2-wb), Saadullah 9-1-17-1 (1-wb), Keggeljee 9-0-39-0 (2-wb)	
NEW ZEALAND	
J. Wright c Taseef Ahmed b Imran Khan	7
R. Vance c Azam Malik b Salim Jaffer	3
A. Jones not out	62
M. Crowe c Salim Malik b Salim Jaffer	45
M. Greatbatch not out	35
Extras (b-5 lb-4 w-1 lb-2)	19
Total for three wickets, 48.5 overs)	171
Fall of wicket: I-10 2-12 3-15	
Did not bat: Chris Keggeljee, Ian Smith.	

Andrew Jones: Man of the Match

Smith, Gary Robertson, Martin Saadullah, Danny Morrison, Willie Watson.

Bowling: Imran Khan 5-0-17-1 (1-wb), Salim Jaffer 10-0-35-2, Asghab Javed 9-5-1-33-0 (nb-6 1-wb), Miskin.

Man of the Match: Andrew Jones

Result: New Zealand won by seven wickets.



Nomads suffer first loss

THIS weekend saw the deciding game of the Gulf Rugby Merit Table. Kuwait (KMMC) Nomads suffered their first loss of the season, going down by 12 points to 3. This defeat also ended a 17 game winning streak, unsurpassed in Kuwait rugby history.

In a hard and close fought game it was Kuwait's indiscipline at ruck and maul which proved to be their downfall. Winger Chris Matthews succeeded with 3 penalties, while Bryce Woodward opened the scoring with an excellent long range drop-goal. Graham Adams was unlucky with three attempts for Kuwait.

The game began on a slightly unfortunate note when a heavy tackle on Bahrain centre Roger John meant he played no further part in the game. Both sets of forwards tore into each other where no quarter was asked or given.

Kuwait faced the wind in the first half, and full back Mark Shipley did extremely well under the barrage of high balls he was faced with.

At half time, Kuwait trailed by

6-0. Soon after the break Kuwait had their best try scoring chance of the game when Bullies entered the line at speed to break the initial defence. However the Bahrain cover managed to push Harvey into touch at the corner.

In the scrum Kuwait were under pressure much of the game, but solid back-row defence ensured the Bahrain forwards made little headway. Half way into the second half Robinson kicked an excellent penalty to reduce Bahrain's lead. However this was quickly extended by the boot of Matthews.

This result now means Kuwait cannot win the Merit Table. It is a pity that Bahrain have failed to fulfil their fixture in Kuwait as this would have had a say in the outcome. It is also time that the Gulf R.F.U. reformed the structure of the Merit Table so that teams such as Kuwait and Muscat do not begin the season at a distinct disadvantage.

However, the chance of glory still exists as Kuwait (KMMC) Nomads will meet Bahrain again next weekend in the final of the Gulf Knock-Out Cup.

Whilst Tanker Co. again made the headlines at the oche, Mem-

bards added further spice to an already intriguing league, by announcing that due to player unavailability, they were no longer able to continue in the league. As a result all games involving the team have been scrubbed from the records, thus reducing the league season to 20 games.

With Straight As A Dal thus having no games, it was left to Cottar Hoose, 6-0 victors over Wallbangers and 4-2 conquerors of Bandits, and Cunning Linguists beating Pacifists 6-0, 2-0 to make up ground on the leaders, so that any one of these five sides can still take the title. Cunning Linguists have the most important role to play in the coming weeks, as they will have to face each of the teams above them, starting with Tanker Co. on Monday.

In the Ladies League, Bandits stayed clear thanks to their 2-1 win at Cottar Hoose in an excellent match. Again Queens lost ground, 1-2, also in a game against Cottar Hoose.

Following three consecutive

defeats Bulls Hitters reactivated their challenge in the Wednesday League by beating Equalisers 4-2 and 2-0 in a rearranged match, and then took out Chockers by 5-1 and 2-0. Bob Cole, Ihsan Soboh, John Watson and Dave Ball all made 3 high scores. Equalisers held onto third place by taking a point off second team Soweto Slingers, as their ladies also had a good night beating Avengers 2-0.

At 3-1 after the singles Equalisers must have had high hopes of taking both points, but Slingers narrowly won two close doubles games to save a point. Has Beans showed that they certainly are not, in astounding Shower of Tossers 6-0, and throwing the bat for third place wide open.

Lady Tossers showed the men how it should be done winning 2-1 in a close contest. H2O regained top spot after a comfortable 6-0, 2-1 thrashing of Suntex Flyers, and with a game in hand must now have the edge over Soweto Slingers in the race for the 1988-89 title.

Not so in the Ladies League where Filies again took both points to stay eight ahead of the rest, this week at the expense of Menage A Trois. Dinar Soars however couldn't produce a double victory, going down to Mat Men 4-2.

Norwegian wins 50-km World Cup skiing race

OSLO, Norway, March 4. (AP) — Vegard Ulvang of Norway took the lead halfway and raced on to win the men's tough 50-kilometre World Cup race today at the Holmenkollen Ski Festival in Nordic skiing.

His winning time, in heavy snow on a 16.6-kilometre track circled three times, was 2 hours, 17 minutes and 39.9 seconds.

Holger Bauroth of East Germany, who was only in sixth place at the halfway mark, finished strongly as the surprise runner-up in 2:18.03.7. He started one minute ahead of Ulvang.

Torgny Mogren and Christer Majback defended Sweden's colours by placing third and fourth in 2:19.25.8 and 2:19.28.6.

Swede Gunde Svan, the triple world champion, World Cup winner and pre-race favourite, ran into a tree on the first lap and injured his left arm. Svan raced on with the use of only one arm and one pole, and finished the race at a slow pace. He was 59th in 2:48.06.8, 30 minutes behind Ulvang.

Svan still remains atop the World Cup standings with 170 points. Ulvang is second with 148 points and Norway's Paal Gunnar Mikkelssplas, who placed 12th, is third with 130.

Vladimir Smirnov of the Soviet Union, third after the first and second laps, finished fifth in 2:19.55.3.

Torgny Langli of Norway, who led after one lap and held second place after two laps, slowed down to finish sixth in 2:19.55.3.

Uwe Bellmann of East Germany placed 7th in 2:20.00.3. Igor Badamshin of the Soviet Union was 8th in 2:20.17.8.

He was followed by veterans Oddvar Braas of Norway, 9th in 2:20.47.7, and Maurilio De Zolt of Italy, 10th in 2:21.07.8.

Braas, 37, and De Zolt, 39, were



Maria Walliser (slalom) race yesterday. I skied well and freely today. Winning the World Cup overall title was a big goal for me, so I am very happy," Schneider said.

Schneider won a record 12

World Cup victories this season, six straight in the slalom, five straight in the giant slalom and one in the combined event.

Two more women's races will be held at Shiga Kogen in central Japan next week with the victory worth 25 points.

"It was sensational to beat Vreni," Walliser told reporters.

Balance

"My two runs were better than here as she lost her balance during the first run," she said. "It's easy for me to win the downhill. But it's very difficult to win the giant slalom. Vreni looked tried as the season nears the end. Nobody expected to beat her. But I did it."

Catherine Quillet of France was fourth in 2:22.28, followed by Jolanda Kindle of Liechtenstein who was clocked in 2:22.57.

Swiss downhill specialist

Michela Fugini was seventh in 2:23.42. Fugini won six World Cup downhill races this season but none in the slalom or giant slalom.

The men's slalom is to be held tomorrow before the World Cup

circuit moves to Shiga Kogen for the final leg of this season's circuit.

Wilkins helps Hawks to crush Hornets

NEW YORK, March 4. (AP) — Dominique Wilkins scored 35 points, including six slam dunks, before sitting out the final 16 minutes as the Atlanta Hawks crushed the Charlotte Hornets 133-109 in National Basketball Association games in Atlanta last night.

Atlanta never trailed, breaking a 2-2 tie on a layup by Glenn Rivers and going on to its eighth victory in 10 games since the NBA's all-star break.

Jazz 107, Heat 95

In Miami, Karl Malone scored 15 of his 34 points in the third quarter as Utah broke open a close game. After scoring the last five points of the first half to lead 45-40, the Jazz scored the first eight points of the second half. Miami never got closer than eight points thereafter.

Malone, the NBA's second leading scorer with 29.2 average, hit his stride after 13 first-half points.

Celtics 107, Mavericks 106

In Boston, Dennis Johnson hit a 3-point shot and a driving layup in the last two minutes to key Boston's fifth victory in its

last six games. The Mavericks are winless in nine games in Boston, the only city where they haven't won.

Johnson, who had made just four of 32 shots from 3-point range this season, sank his desperation 3-pointer with the time almost run out.

Pistons 96, Cavaliers 90

In Auburn Hills, Michigan, Isiah Thomas made two baskets to key a decisive 6-0 burst in the fourth quarter and Akeem Olajuwon and Eric "Sleepy" Floyd, two of Houston's top three scorers, were ejected as the Rockets suffered their seventh consecutive loss.

Olajuwon, who scored 12 points, half his per-game average, was ejected with 8:30 left after picking up his second technical in a scuffle with Seattle's Michael Cage. The Sonics led at the time 89-84.

Olajuwon got his first technical during a second-period scuffle with Cage. Floyd was ejected with 1:32 left in the first half for arguing a foul call. The Rockets were charged with five technicals, the other going to coach Don Chaney.

Lakers 138, Pacers 117

In Ingwood, California, A.C. Green scored 24 points and Magic Johnson added 20 as Los Angeles coasted to its fourth straight victory and snapped Indiana's fourth-game winning streak.

Best thwarts Indian spinners

BRIDGETOWN, March 4. (Reuters) — A fighting unbeaten 60 by West Indies President's XI captain Carlisle Best frustrated India's spinners on the second day of the opening match of their Caribbean tour yesterday.

against the tight spinners. His timing was also excellent.

But the left-hander was run out for 38 after a mix-up with Best. He batted 82 minutes and struck six fours.

Another left-hander, Brian Lara, was also run out. He shipped and fell after being sent back by Best having made 16.

All-rounder Robert Haynes,

yet another left-hander, wasted no time in clouting 20 not out before the close.

Fluent

Best, a model of concentration, laboured for 237 minutes.

A sparkling extra-cover drive was

the only four in his innings, but

he hit a straight six off off-spinner Arshad Ayub and lofted another mid-on, off the

bowling of off-spinner Margasa-

hayam Venkatarama.

India, 283 for six overnight,

had their total boosted by last

pair Sanjeev Sharma and Ven-

katarama, who added 39 in the

morning session. Sharma rea-

ched 40 not out, aided by six

fours and a five.

Scoreboard

INDIA first innings (continued from page 283 for six wickets)

R.P. Singh lbw b Gray.....14

K.S. More c Perry b Gray.....5

China beat Bangladesh

DHAKA, March 4, (AP): China kept its winning streak alive by beating injury-plagued Bangladesh 2-0 tonight in World Cup soccer qualification play.

China, which trailed 1-0 at halftime, has now won two matches against Bangladesh and three against Thailand in the Asian Group Five. Bangladesh has yet to post a victory, previously losing one match apiece to Iran and Thailand.

China's first score came 24 minutes into the first half when Wang Badshah converted a cross from Xie Yuxian into a header and sent it straight into the net. Substitute Ma Lin scored China's second goal off a corner in the 18th minute of the second half.

Bangladesh goalkeeper Mohammad Mohsin, who was injured in the first match against China, returned to the field tonight and kept up his team's morale until the final moments by preventing at least four Chinese goals.

Another top Bangladesh player, Rezaul Karim Rehan, played for the first time since being injured against Iran, but he failed to last the match.

Bangladesh displayed spirited midfield manoeuvres as the Dhaka stadium crowd of 25,000 cheered, but it couldn't get the ball past China's goalkeeper, Zhang Huikang.

"We played a sporting game and won a deserving match," said Zhang Jilong, China's manager.

"We played our best," Bangladesh manager Harunur Rashid said. "However, the Chinese played better."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Belgian wins

GHENT, Belgium, March 4, (AP): Etienne de Wilde of Belgium won the 44th Ghent-Ghent Cycling Classic today after breaking away from a pack of 60 odd cyclists a few kilometres from the finish.

Ireland's Sean Kelly was second and Remig Stumpf of West Germany finished third.

Defender sent home

EDINBURGH, March 4, (Reuter): Defender David Narey was sent home from Scotland's World Cup training headquarters today for medical tests after complaining of a nagging back injury.

The 32-year-old Dundee United centre-back required injections earlier in the week, but was unfit to train today.

Manager Andy Roxburgh said he hoped Narey would recover before Scotland's World Cup European Group Five qualifier against France on Wednesday.

Desert Orchid

LONDON, March 4, (Reuter): Desert Orchid, the 3-2 favourite, will definitely run in the Cheltenham Gold Cup horse race on March 16, trainer David Elsworth said today.

The news, announced at Newbury races, will cheer the many fans who have made the grey Britain's most popular racehorse for many years.

Chamberlin wins

NANCY, France, March 4, (AP): Paul Chamberlin of the United States defeated Jeremy Bates of Britain in yesterday's quarterfinals of the \$130,000 Lorraine Open tennis tournament.

Chamberlin beat Bates in two sets, 6-4, 6-4.

In other play, Belgium's Eduardo Masso defeated Sweden's Johann Carlsson in three sets, 6-4, 5-7, 6-3.

Boxing title

MEDELLIN, Colombia, March 4, (Reuter): Colombian Elvis Alvarez won the vacant WBO boxing flyweight title here last night by unanimous decision after 12 rounds against Dominican Miguel Mercedes.

BRIDGE

RESULTS of Sheraton Bridge Club Game held on Tuesday.

N/S

1. Mrs Rita & Sultan Ali

2. Sherin & Hesoudi

3. Mrs and Mr F. Farah

E/W

1. Saife & Gajai

2. Dr Saad & Imam Ali

3. Nizar & Chandra Shekhar

Results of the Messiahs Bridge Club games played on Monday.

1. Lolita Mirthwaite & Dos Maternas

2. Uaneeth Hui & Nida Khalaf

3. Subendan Oftay & Nida Khalaf

Results of the Regency Ladies Bridge Club games played on Wednesday.

1. Rima Farah & Nicole Iskandar

2. Margaret Maynard & Sezan Katsamore

3. Subendan Oftay & Nida Khalaf

Graf breezes through another light workout

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, March 4, (Reuter): Defending champion Steffi Graf of West Germany breezed through another light workout in the quarterfinals of the \$200,000 Women's Hardcourt Tennis Championship yesterday.

The top-seeded world number one needed just 52 minutes to brush aside eighth-seeded American Terry Phelps 6-3, 6-0 and set up a semifinal encounter with Australian sixth seed Hana Mandlikova, a 7-5, 7-5 winner over American Camille Benjamain.

Record

"My serve was working really well," said Graf after raising her 1989 match record to 15-0. "I think it was a good match, but I know I can play better. I was not returning my forehand well."

Today's other semifinal, an unseeded all-American affair, will pit Katrina Adams against Ann Henrickson, who ousted unseeded Italian Linda Ferrando 6-3, 5-7, 6-4.

Fifth-seeded American Patty Fendick failed to capitalise on

three match points and fell victim to the 96th-ranked Adams 4-6, 7-6, 7-6.

After taking the opening set, the 20th-ranked Fendick fell behind 2-5 in the second set. The fifth seed rallied to force a tiebreak in which she held three match points.

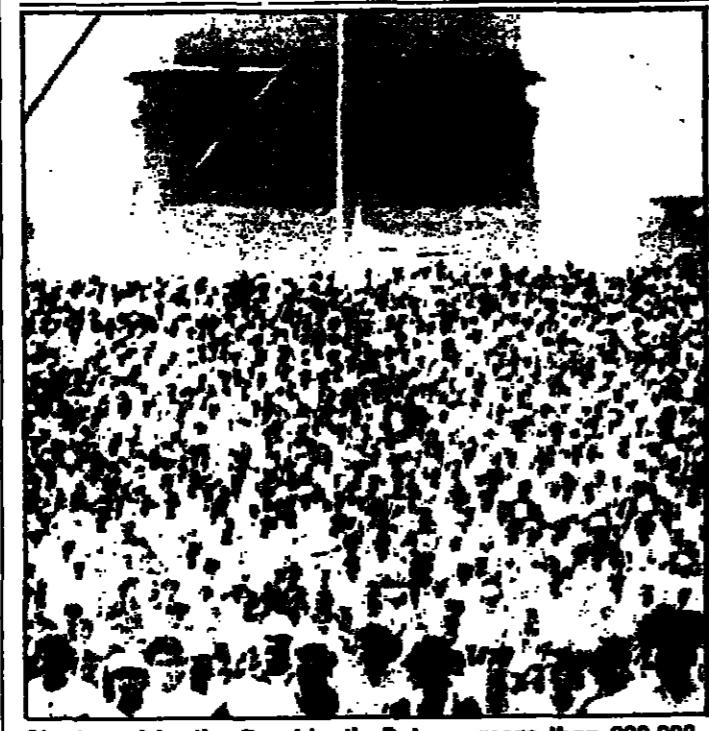
Adams, however, fought off each of Fendick's attempts to close out the match and took the tiebreak 10-8 to level the contest at one set each.

The third set also went to a tiebreak but was much less dramatic. Adams ran off six straight points from 1-1 to complete her upset.

Struggled

Mandlikova, who returned to action in January after a six-month layoff, struggled against Benjamin in their quarterfinal. Twice she found herself down 3-5 and had to fight her way back, winning the last four games of each set.

"I should not have let it go to 5-3 in the first set," said Mandlikova. "I lost my concentration. I really had to put myself into another gear."



Shadowed by the President's Palace, more than 200,000 runners participating in the Delhi marathon and Nehru centenary run begin making their way down Rajpath in New Delhi yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)

Australian leads in Desert Golf Classic

DUBAI, March 4, (Reuter): Australian Peter O'Malley, playing at the invitation of the sponsors, took a surprise lead in the third round of the Desert Golf Classic today with a 68 for a nine-under-par 207 at the Emirates Club.

The stocky former New Zealand amateur champion was a stroke ahead of Britain's Paul Broadhurst, who shot a 70 to edge a stroke clear of overnight leader and compatriot Mark James. James was round in 72.

O'Malley, who narrowly failed to win US tour card late last year after turning professional in 1987, is hoping to gain his PGA European tour credentials by winning enough prize money to finish among the top 120 at the end of the season.

Victory or second place tomorrow would clinch his "ticket".

Newcastle and West Ham, 19th and last, did not play today when all other First Divisions matches were postponed to assist England's preparations for a World Cup qualifying match in Albania on Wednesday.

In the Second Division, leaders Chelsea were also without a match, but second-placed Manchester City failed to take advantage — they were beaten 1-

Reggi survives to advance to semifinals

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma, March 4, (AP): Third-seeded Rafaela Reggi survived a strong test from Carling Bassett-Seguso last night to advance to the semifinals of the \$100,000 Virginia Slims of Oklahoma Tennis tournament.

Reggi of Italy won the match 6-2, 4-6, 4-4 when Bassett-Seguso retired after hurting her right ankle while running to return a Reggi backhand.

Reggi got off to a fast start in the first set by capitalising on Bassett-Seguso's mistakes. She broke the Canadian in the third game but Bassett-Seguso broke back in the fourth to even the set at 2-2.

Reggi then won four straight games to take the set.

"In the second set, she kept mixing up her shots," said Reggi. "She kept looping the ball, lobbing me and really changing things up. I just didn't know what to do."

The third set opened with Reggi breaking Bassett-Seguso in the first game, but Bassett-Seguso broke back in the fourth and fifth games to go up 3-1.

In another quarterfinal match, Manon Bollegraaf of the Netherlands eliminated Claudia Portwick of West Germany 5-7, 6-3, 6-3. Bollegraaf will meet Reggi in the semifinals today.

Also, fourth-seeded Leila Meskhi of the Soviet Union beat No. 7 Amy Frazier of the United States in straight sets 6-2, 7-6 (7-5). Meskhi will play ninth-seeded Etsuko Inoue of Japan, a 7-6 (8-6), 6-3 winner over Betsy Nagles of the United States in the other semifinal.

"I am very, very upset at the officiation and I am disappointed at losing, but there will be more losses," said Lendl.

McEnroe beat Lendl for the

WORLD NUMBER ONE BEATEN IN FOUR-HOUR MATCH

McEnroe upsets Lendl in semifinal



DALLAS, March 4, (Reuter): John McEnroe beat arch-rival Ivan Lendl for the first time in more than three years yesterday in a four-hour semifinal match at the World Championship Tennis (WCT) finals.

McEnroe knocked the world number one out of the \$685,000 tournament 6-7(4-7)-7-6(7-5)-6-2-7-5 and will meet his fellow American Brad Gilbert in the final today.

"It was a great victory for me," said McEnroe, ranked sixth in the world.

Certified

"It means a lot to beat him in a certified match. We have gone in cycles and hopefully this one will get me going. I am elated I won."

Lendl lost his temper during the match, costing him three code violations from British professional umpire Gerry Armstrong.

They included a point penalty and a game penalty which brought him within one violation of being defaulted.

"I am not upset at the way I behaved because I did nothing wrong," said Lendl.

Violation

"He (Armstrong) called a violation for something I never said. The other night against (Swiss player Jakob) Hlasek they were right, this time they were not," Lendl said of the three code violations he incurred in the quarterfinals.

"I am very, very upset at the officiation and I am disappointed at losing, but there will be more losses," said Lendl.

McEnroe beat Lendl for the

McEnroe: knocks No. 1

first time in three-and-a-half years and for the first time in five matches to level their career contest at 15 wins each.

McEnroe beat Lendl for the

England beat France to share Five Nations lead

LONDON, March 4, (Reuter):

England gained their first win over France at Twickenham for 10 years with an emphatic 11-0 victory today which gave them a share of the lead in the Five Nations Rugby Union Championship.

In another match Scotland beat Ireland 37-21.

Even the most partisan French supporters could not have argued with an England success based on the stirring efforts of their forwards, notably in the line-out where lock Paul Ackford was outstanding in only his fourth international.

The French, holders of the Five Nations title with Wales, came more into the match when they shortened their lineout in the second half.

But throughout the 80 minutes they never once seriously threatened the England line and in the end were soundly beaten for the first time in this year's tournament as England joined Scotland, 37-21 winners over Ireland, at the top of the championship table.

England's points came from a first half try by their captain and centre Will Carling and another right at the end by flanker Andy Robinson.

In between Rob Andrew landed a penalty, but generally the England fly half was again in poor kicking form, missing both conversions, two penalties and two attempted dropped goals.

Meanwhile, three tries from

winger Iwan Tukalo kept Scottish title hopes alive in the Five Nations Rugby Union Championship match against Ireland at Murrayfield.

The Scots swept to a 37-21 victory in a spectacular game which saw eight tries in all.

Scotland led 19-6 after 30 minutes but 10 minutes later at half-time the Irish were 21-19 ahead.

Six tries had been scored in the opening 40 minutes, three apiece.

Full-back Peter Dods turned the match Scotland's way in the second half with two penalties to make the score 25-21.

Then forward Damian Cronin scored a fourth try for Scotland, converted by Dods to put the home side in control again at 31-21.

In the final minute Tukalo went for his third try and Dods completed his fourth conversion for a resounding victory.

John Jeffrey scored Scotland's other try while Brendan Mullin (two) and full-back Fergus Dunn (one) crossed for Ireland during their golden spell in the first half.

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Grosiron wins

HINDENBURG, West Germany, March 4, (AP): Edgard Grosiron of France won the men's Mogul competition finals during the World Freestyle Ski Championships yesterday.

Raphaelle Monod of France won the women's Mogul competition final.

Albion of East Fife and Stemhousemuir of East Stirlingshire were the men's and women's team winners respectively.

England's results in the men's competition were:

Postponed: Sunderland v Chelsea

Played Friday:

Halifax v Doncaster

Tranmere v Wrexham

Playing Sunday: Cambridge v Colchester

Scottish Division One

Clydebank v Ayr

Clydebank v Dumferline

Falkirk v Meadowbank

Forfar v St Johnstone

Kilmarnock v Ardrosson

Morven v Partick